



# AURORA VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL

## Minutes

**April 12, 2023**

**Time:** 6:00 p.m.

### **Council Members**

Jose Cervantes; Ansar Kazmi; Josh Pfeuffer (Chair); Guillermo Trujillo (COA); Patricia DeVore; Scott Maxson; Rick Lawrence; Curtis Wilson; Dave Tellner; Mike Carrasco and Pete Rodriguez.

**Call to Order** (Chair) Mr. Pfeuffer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance** Completed

**Moment of Silence** Completed

**Roll Call** **Present:** Mr. Jose Cervantes; Ms. Patricia DeVore; Mr. Guillermo Trujillo; Mr. Rick Lawrence; Mr. Josh Pfeuffer (Chair); Mr. Dave Tellner; Mr. Curtis Wilson; Mr. Mike Carrasco and Mr. Pete Rodriguez.  
**Absent:** Mr. Ansar Kazmi and Mr. Scott Maxson.

**Mission Statement** Completed by membership.

**Acceptance of Previous Minutes:** The March 8, 2023 Meeting Minutes were distributed to the membership in advance. A motion was made by Mr. Carrasco and seconded by Mr. Pfeuffer to accept the March 8, 2023 Meeting Minutes as presented. A vote from the floor was taken and unanimously passed to accept the March 8, 2023 Meeting Minutes as presented with no corrections.

**Public Comment** None presented.

**Treasurer's Report** The current March 2023 Treasurer's Report totals were presented to the membership by Treasurer Mr. Tellner.

**Scholarship Fund**

**Council Fund**

**Service Dogs Fund**

## **Memorial Bricks Fund**

### **Assistance Fund**

## **Committee Report**

**Scholarship Fund** Mr. Guillermo Trujillo informed the membership that the COA's \$5,500.00 donation was successfully recently transferred into the current AVAC Scholarship Fund.

**AVAC Web / Social Media** Mr. Cervantes continues to do a great job of posting numerous pictures, covering other local VSO organizations events, etc. to help raise public awareness about these various events too on our AVAC Face Book page.

**Service Dogs** Mr. Pfeuffer (Chair) and Mr. Tellner continue to work with the COA Community partners to transfer our current \$150K in funding over to the "Got Your Six Service Dog" organization a nonprofit. They will provide the membership with an update at next month's meeting.

**Memorial Bricks** Mr. Cervantes informed the membership the Citizens Police Academy is currently in the process of purchasing 1 x Memorial Brick online in March 2023.

**Assistance Fund** Mr. Pfeuffer (Chair) advised no new requests received in March 2023.

**COA Liaison Report** Mr. Trujillo informed the membership Mr. Mike Nelson & the COA continue to work towards finalizing upcoming COA parades plans for this year. AVAC has been asked to host a Veterans Resource / Veterans Programs Fair scheduled for 10:30 am – 1:30 pm on June 3, 2023 at the Prisco Center in Aurora. Mr. Guillermo Trujillo and Mr. Dave Tellner volunteered to host the AVAC membership table at this event. Ms. DeVore will also host her Veterans Smile Program table at this event as well. Mr. Wilson volunteered to present / promote this Veterans event on behalf of AVAC during the Public Comment portion at the next COA Counsel Meeting.

**Upcoming Events** Mr. Pfeuffer advised AVAC membership has been invited to participate in the Aurora Hollywood Casino's next "Giving Back" event now scheduled for 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm on April 18<sup>th</sup> at the "Penalty Box Sports Bar" located on the main floor of the Hollywood Casino. 20% of all food sales will be donated to AVAC. Food purchasing patrons must mention the phrase "giving back" when ordering their food items in order for AVAC to receive the 20% donation. Mr. Lawrence also advised the "Naperville Responds For Veterans" is hosting a strength and honor luncheon on Wednesday, April 19, 2023, at 11:00 am at Bobanks Signature Events – Woodridge. The event speaker will be 1SG (RET.) US Army Mr. Matthew P. Eversmann.

## **Old Business:**

- Mr. Pfeuffer purchased 1 x 4 x 6 US Flag on behalf of AVAC to donate for the upcoming monthly Flag Dedication Ceremonies previously hosted by the Walter E. Truemper American Legion Post #1944 and the COA.

## **New Business:**

- A motion was made by Mr. Pfeuffer and seconded by Mr. Carrasco, that AVAC cover the cost associated with our hosting the upcoming Veterans Resource / Veterans Programs Fair at the

Prisco Center in Aurora scheduled for June 3<sup>rd</sup>. A vote was taken from the floor and unanimously passed by the membership.

- Mr. Pfeuffer distributed a list of 8 x personal items needed by the Veteran residents that reside at the Hope For Tomorrow facility in Aurora. We further discussed the possibility of getting some of the items donated by other individuals or organizations. We would need to donate 65 x AVAC – Veteran Gift Bags in total with the contents costing approximately \$1,805.00 in total. A motion was made by Ms. DeVore and seconded by Mr. Tellner, that AVAC move forward with this new project to provide a total of 65 x Gift Bags for the current & future Veterans residing at the Hope For Tomorrow facility in Aurora with a total budgeted amount of \$2,500.00 allocated from our AVAC Veterans Assistance Fund for this project. A vote was then taken from the floor and unanimously passed by the membership.

**Announcements / Good of the Order** – None presented.

**Next meeting is** May10, 2023

**Adjournment** Called at 6:45 pm with a motion from Ms. DeVore and a second by Mr. Carrasco, Motion passed.