

## Carroll County Veterans Advisory Council Meeting

Meeting Date: April 19, 2022

Start Time: 2:00 pm

Location: American Legion Post 31 (2 Sycamore Street, Westminster, MD)

Chairperson: Marc Fisher

Vice-Chair: Mick Schmidt

Topic	Discussion
<b>Mission Statement</b>	To evaluate, develop and promote new and existing programs and services for Veterans and their families within Carroll County.
<b>Vision Statement</b>	That Carroll County offers our Veterans quality services and programs to ensure the enrichment and enhancements of life for our men and women and their families.
<b>Attendance (Appointed VAC Members are in bold)</b>	Jesika Asaro, <b>Larry Burbank</b> , <b>Jack Curran</b> , Bob Eney, <b>Marc Fisher</b> , Tom Fort, Roslyn Jones, Bobbie Lawrence, Kristen Maszarose, <b>Elaine May Stem</b> , Mike Messina, <b>Bill Nash</b> , Stacey Nash, Rick Pollard, David Reese, Sr., Commissioner Rothstein, Elaine Scott, Celene Steckel, <b>John Veney</b> , Gina Valentine, Leslie Wagner, Commissioner Weaver, <b>Steve Whisler</b>
<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>Chair's Comments</u> – Marc Fisher opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. He reminded attendees of the scope and mission of the council and the limits to public comment and announcements.</li> <li>2. <u>Attendee Introductions and Announcements</u> – Everyone present introduced themselves.</li> <li>3. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Marc Fisher.</li> <li>4. <u>Commissioner's Report</u> –               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <u>Commissioner Weaver</u>: In the last few weeks there have been some Veterans in crisis in Carroll County. They will host an Inaugural Veterans Celebration on May 15<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>b. <u>Commissioner Rothstein</u>: Attended Crisis Intervention Training and was able to provide a Veterans perspective, including PTSD. He continues to work at breaking down the stigma of mental health and PTSD and it starts by recognizing that it exists.</li> </ol> </li> <li>5. <u>Public Comment</u> – No comment.</li> </ol>
<b>Old Business</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A quorum (6 + voting members) was established with six voting members present at the time of the vote.</li> <li>2. <u>Approval of Minutes</u> – A motion was made by Bill Nash and seconded by Steve Whisler. A vote was taken and the minutes for the March 2022 meeting was approved.</li> <li>3. <u>Monthly Program Reports</u>:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Veteran's Program Coordinators' Report for March 2022: (Mike Messina)                   <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. 36 Claims submitted</li> <li>ii. 12 New representations</li> </ol> </li> </ol> </li> </ol>

## Carroll County Veterans Advisory Council Meeting

Meeting Date: April 19, 2022

Start Time: 2:00 pm

Location: American Legion Post 31 (2 Sycamore Street, Westminster, MD)

Chairperson: Marc Fisher

Vice-Chair: Mick Schmidt

- |  |   |
|--|---|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>iii. 54 Office visits</li><li>iv. 6 Home visits</li><li>v. 35 Phone appointments</li><li>vi. 1654 Telephone and Email contacts</li><li>vii. Monthly return on investment, based on known awards is approximately \$1,525,726 for compensation and pension. Monthly Growth Rate for the month of March 2022 was 5%.</li><li>viii. Yearly return on investment, based on known awards is approximately \$45,851,669 since inception of the program in October 2013. Growth Rate from 12/2021 to 4/2022 is 9%.</li><li>ix. Program staff will be attending an all-day workshop for Maryland VSOs on May 5<sup>th</sup> and will give a report at next month's meeting.</li><li>b. <u>Veteran's Shuttle Report</u> – March 2022: (Stacey Nash)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. 21 Veterans were served with 17 home pick-ups<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Baltimore – 13 Veterans served with 24 trips</li><li>2. Loch Raven—1 Veteran served with 1 trip</li><li>3. Fort Detrick – 2 Veterans served with 1 trip</li><li>4. Lutherville – 1 Veterans served with 2 trips</li><li>5. Martinsburg – 6 Veterans served with 10 trips</li><li>6. GBMC – 1 Veteran served with 1 trip</li><li>7. Total cost - \$4,033.05</li></ul></li><li>ii. This is the second highest month of the fiscal year. Baltimore is still the most visited.</li><li>iii. Shuttle Comparisons for FY19-FY22 were provided. We are still under pre-pandemic numbers.</li></ul></li><li>c. <u>Employment Initiatives for Veterans Update</u> (John Veney) – For the last quarter ended he served up to 17 Veterans, with five finding employment in various local positions. Most employment came from virtual job fairs. There will be a job fair in Howard County tomorrow with a virtual fair in Carroll County on May 31<sup>st</sup>. He will be at the Claims Clinic in June at South Carroll Senior &amp; Community Center. He has been working to try and connect his clients to larger job markets. He is looking to partner with Carroll Community College for training and possibly hosting a job fair.</li></ul> |
|--|---|

## Carroll County Veterans Advisory Council Meeting

Meeting Date: April 19, 2022

Start Time: 2:00 pm

Location: American Legion Post 31 (2 Sycamore Street, Westminster, MD)

Chairperson: Marc Fisher

Vice-Chair: Mick Schmidt

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. <u>Update on Veteran Direct Home and Community Based Services Program Grant</u> (Francine Hahn) – Currently serving two families. No referrals since November.</li> <li>5. <u>Update on Veteran Services Program Grant</u> (Bobbie Lawrence) – Currently have none housed in the hotel. Last few months have had great success with 3 receiving HUD-VASH vouchers and one Veteran a Mainstream voucher. Have received referrals from HSP, Access Carroll and the Hospital. Has assisted with applications for food stamps, energy assistance, aging services, and transportation, and were able to provide donated supplies. Thank you to Catholic War Veterans for your generous support of donations. Preparing to reapply for the Kahlert Foundation grant next month.</li> </ol>
<p><b>New Business</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>Bureau of Aging &amp; Disabilities 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration – Volunteers for VAC Table</u> (Leslie Wagner) – The Veterans Advisory Council will have a table at BOAD’s 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration event on April 27 from 10am to 2pm. Current volunteers include Marc Fisher, Jack Curran, Bill Nash, Bob Eney and Larry Burbank. Secretary Owings will be unable to attend but Elaine May Stem will provide opening remarks in his place.</li> <li>2. <u>Inaugural Carroll County Veterans Celebration</u> – Sunday, May 15 from 12-4pm rain or shine at the Carroll County Farm Museum. This event is for families and will be open to the public. Veterans will receive goody bags with a special pin, vouchers for the beer garden and dessert truck, as well as giveaways. On site will be several food trucks, bands, Veteran Services Organizations, craft vendors, helicopter and jeep display, military display in the museum, and more. Contacts are Dana Wachter at the Farm Museum and Leslie for the VSO’s. Website is <a href="http://www.carrollcountymd.gov/veteranscelebration">www.carrollcountymd.gov/veteranscelebration</a>. Continue to get the word out. Volunteer sign-up sheet was passed around. This is a government-sponsored event and not a political event.</li> <li>3. <u>Nominations for FY2023 Chair and Vice-Chair</u> – There will be voting at the June meeting. Please make your nominations to Leslie. An email will be sent with those who are eligible to serve.</li> <li>4. <u>VA Claims &amp; Benefits Clinic – June 7<sup>th</sup> at South Carroll Senior &amp; Community Center</u> – This clinic is a partnership between MD VA, Chesapeake Veterans Alliance, and Carroll County Government. Federal and Maryland VSO’s will be onsite. Information sessions, claims processing and VA Medical will be available. Registration will be forthcoming.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Announcements</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Elaine May Stem will be collecting information on local Memorial Day events. Please forward to her by April 30<sup>th</sup>.</li> </ol>

## Carroll County Veterans Advisory Council Meeting

Meeting Date: April 19, 2022

Start Time: 2:00 pm

Location: American Legion Post 31 (2 Sycamore Street, Westminster, MD)

Chairperson: Marc Fisher

Vice-Chair: Mick Schmidt

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>2. Roslyn Jones announced that she has moved positions within Maryland State government. She is currently working as the Women Veterans/Inclusion Program Director for MD VA. June 12<sup>th</sup> is Women Veterans Day in Maryland.</li><li>3. Council members as well as attendees are encouraged to wear apparel representing the branch, unit, or Veteran Services organizations that they represent.</li><li>4. There are still funds available through the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP). If you know of someone that is having trouble paying rent due to COVID they can receive up to 12 months rental arrears as well as 3 months future rent. If you know of someone that is experiencing barriers to staying successfully housed, the Bureau of Housing has three Housing Stability Coordinators on staff.</li></ol>
<b>Next Meeting Date</b>	<b>Tuesday, May 17, 2022, at 2pm at the American Legion Post #31, 2 Sycamore Street, Westminster.</b>