

Carroll County Veterans Advisory Council Meeting

Meeting Date: May 16, 2023

Start Time: 2:00 pm

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

Chairperson: Bill Nash

Vice-Chair: Steve Whisler

Topic	Discussion
Mission Statement	To evaluate, develop and promote new and existing programs and services for Veterans and their families within Carroll County.
Vision Statement	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.
Attendance (Appointed VAC Members are in bold)	Bill Nash, Commissioner Kiler, Bill Murphy , Bob Eney, Bobbie Lawrence, Nan Mann, Nancy Fields, Stacey Nash, Rich Pollard, Elaine Scott, Gina Valentine, Tony Roman, Victoria Parks, Francine Hahn, Kati Townsley, Nigel Forney, Tom Fort, Chris Miller, Doc Dockery, Mick Schmidt
Welcome and Introductions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Chair’s Comments</u> – Bill Nash opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. 2. <u>Attendee Introductions and Announcements</u>- Attendees all provided introductions 3. <u>Pledge of Allegiance</u> was led by Bill Nash. 4. <u>Commissioner’s Report</u> – <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <u>Commissioner Gordon & Commissioner Kiler</u>: Commissioner Kiler- Expressed his appreciation to everyone involved with the Veteran’s Celebration. Budget is ready to be approved, planning to do a total review of what is allowed as use in Agriculture. Agro Tourism focus has the possibility to increase, focus important especially in Carroll County. b. <u>Public Comment</u> – No public comments
Old Business	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Approval of Minutes</u> – quorum not reached; April minutes not approved. 2. <u>Monthly Program Reports</u>: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <u>Veteran’s Program Coordinators’ Report for April 2023</u>: (Richard Pollard) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. 15 Claims submitted ii. 16 New Representations iii. 62 office/4 home visits iv. 14 phone appointments b. <u>Veteran’s Shuttle Report</u> – (Stacey Nash) April 2023:

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. 1 Veterans were served with 31 total trips- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Baltimore/ 8 Veterans/ 14 trips 2. Fort Detrick/ 4 Veterans/ 5 trips 3. Walter Reed/ 1 veteran/ 1 trip 4. Martinsburg / 8 Veterans/ 10 Trips 5. Loch Raven/ 0 Veteran/ 0 Trips 6. Glen Burnie/1 Veteran/1 trip 7. Total cost of \$3,601.12 c. <u>Employment Initiatives for Veterans Update</u> (DLLR Representative -Tom Fort)- Interviews completed this morning to fill John Veney’s position, hoping to have filled in the next month. 3. <u>Update on Veteran Direct Home and Community Based Services Program Grant</u> (Veteran Service Staff) – No Updates, everything continues to run smoothly. 4. <u>Update on Veteran Services Program Grant</u> (Veterans Service Staff) – Veteran service Officer position still open. Veterans Trust Fund up & running, has been used to assist one Veteran with mortgage, Hud voucher received by by one Veteran, emergency housing given to husband and wife while they apply for housing voucher,
<p>New Business</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Chair and Vice-Chair Nominations:</u> From now to the next meeting in June accepting nominations. Voting taking place during June meeting, Instatement starting in July. 2. <u>Open Positions:</u> MD Labor representative position open, council position terms ending. Additional open positions will come up in the fall. 3. <u>Veteran’s Celebration recap:</u> Roughly 2,000 individuals in attendance (compared to 1,600 last year), survey sent out to Vendors & have gotten positive feedback as well as where to expand for next years event, golf carts were a large bonus for this year, as well as positive feedback of the bands.

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Announcements	1. Kati Townsley: Platoon 22 is working in conjunction with organizations across Carroll County, there will be an open house June 8 th to share resources with the community. Additional information to follow and shared with the VAC distribution.
Next Meeting Date	Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at 2pm at the American Legion Post #31, 2 Sycamore Street, Westminster.