

Carroll County Veterans Advisory Council Meeting

Meeting Date: June 18, 2024

Start Time: 2:00 pm

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

Chairperson: Bill Nash

Vice-Chair: Bob Eney

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)	Jack Curran, Bob Eney, Mark Fisher, Bill Nash, Steve Whisler , Commissioner Gordon, Commissioner Kiler, Bobbie Lawrence, Nan Mann, Tony Roman, Lois Romeo
Welcome and Introductions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Chair's Comments</u> – opened the meeting by welcoming those attending. 2. <u>Attendee Introductions and Announcements</u>- No Comment 3. <u>Pledge of Allegiance</u> was led by Bill Nash 4. <u>Commissioner's Report</u> – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Commissioner Kiler</u>: Welcomes the group, appreciates being a part of the Veteran's Advisory Council meetings. Budget is finalized and ready to move forward. <u>Commissioner Gordon</u>: Attended the Westminster Memorial parade, so happy to see wonderful community traditions continue.
Old Business	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Approval of Minutes</u> – Quorum not met, unable to approve April & May 2024 minutes. 2. <u>Monthly Program Reports:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <u>Veteran's Program Coordinators' Report for May 2024:</u> (Richard Pollard) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. 27 Claims submitted. ii. 26 New Representations iii. 37 office/12 home visits iv. 12 phone appointments v. 1576 telephone/ email contacts b. <u>Veteran's Shuttle Report</u> – (Stacey Nash) May 2024: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. 20 Veterans were served with 28 total trips- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Baltimore- 11 Veterans/ 16 trips 2. Loch Raven- 0 Veteran/ 0 trips 3. Fort Detrick- 4 veteran/ 4 trips 4. Martinsburg – 4 Veteran/ 7 Trip 5. Germantown- 1 Veteran/ 1 Trips 6. Total cost of \$4,413.64

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	<p>c. <u>Employment Initiatives for Veterans Update</u> (DLLR Representative)- No new updates.</p> <p>3. <u>Update on Veteran Direct Home and Community Based Services Program Grant</u> (Veteran Service Staff) – No new updates</p> <p>4. <u>Update on Veteran Services Program Grant</u> (Veterans Service Staff) –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uptick in referrals for those who are expecting financial hardships, threats of homelessness and issues related to mental health concerns. • Currently providing emergency housing to one veteran. Has a VASH voucher, but now struggling as his car requires new transmission. • Assisted a Veteran in paying for minor dental work, was able to receive discount as dentist was Tony’s previous student. • Continue to see needs to food insecurity, rising costs of food and necessities. • Annual Report due 9/1/2024
<p>New Business</p>	<p>a. <u>Aging Your Way, Health & Wellness Expo- September 12th, 2024</u>: Formerly known as the Seniors on the Go Expo, the Aging Your Way Expo will take place on Thursday September 12th, 2024 from 9am -2pm at Shipley Arena. Insite resources, Health Screeners, Free Therapies and Demonstrations, including a full Pickleball Court with instruction by the Carroll County Pickleball Association. Organizations interested in being a vendor can contact Victoria Parks at vparks@carrollcountymd.gov.</p> <p>b. <u>Vote to forego July and/or August Veterans Advisory Council Meeting</u> Board moved to cancel July 2024 Veterans Advisory Council Meeting. Normal meeting schedule to resume on Tuesday August 21, 2024</p> <p>c. <u>Voting Chair and Vice Chair positions</u> Quorum not met, unable to vote for Chair and Vice Chair positions.</p>
<p>Announcements</p>	
<p>Next Meeting Date</p>	<p>Tuesday, August 21, 2024, at 2pm at the American Legion Post #31, 2 Sycamore Street, Westminster.</p>