

## Carroll County Veterans Advisory Council Meeting

Meeting Date: June 20, 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  |
|---|---|
| <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> | <b>Larry Burbank, Jim Duncan, Jack Curran, Marc Fisher, Commissioner Kiler, Bill Murphy, Bill Nash, Elaine May-Stem, Steve Whisler, Bob Eney, Bobbie Lawrence, Nan Mann, Rick Pollard, Stacey Nash, Celene Steckel, Tony Roman, Nigel Forney, Victoria Parks</b>  |
| <b>Welcome and Introductions</b>                      | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>Chair's Comments</u> – Bill Nash opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.</li> <li>2. <u>Attendee Introductions and Announcements</u>- Attendees all provided introductions</li> <li>3. <u>Pledge of Allegiance</u> was led by Bill Nash.</li> <li>4. <u>Commissioner's Report</u> –               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <u>Commissioner Gordon &amp; Commissioner Kiler</u>: Commissioner Kiler- Commissioner Gordon is in a meeting with planning and zoning. Commissioners have been in their position for about 6 month, July 1<sup>st</sup> they will begin to go through each individual budget and compare to last years numbers. Will provide a better understanding of spending and request stating needs for additional funding.<br/>-Asked the group for any recommendations of how to get Veterans to accept the available resources in the community.<br/>-Bobbie Lawrence offered the assistance of the Veterans Service Program. If Commissioner Kiler can get their contact information, staff will reach out to the individual.</li> <li>b. <u>Public Comment</u> –<br/>Bill Murphy- Friends of Disabled Veterans of Carrol County started out with one van six years ago. Over the years they have garnered more vehicles and have expanded their trips to include all of Carroll County, Frederick County and out to DC. It has been a pleasure to serv the Veteran Community and will continue doing so.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> |
| <b>Old Business</b>                                   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>Approval of Minutes</u> – A motion was made by Bill Nash</li> <li>2. <u>Monthly Program Reports</u>:</li> </ol>  |

## Carroll County Veterans Advisory Council Meeting

Meeting Date: June 20, 2023

Start Time: 2:00 pm

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

Chairperson: Bill Nash

Vice-Chair: Steve Whisler

a. Veteran's Program Coordinators' Report for May 2023: (Richard Pollard)

- i. 16 Claims submitted
- ii. 16 New Representations
- iii. 68 office/9 home visits
- iv. 16 phone appointments

b. Veteran's Shuttle Report – (Stacey Nash) April 2023:

- i. 37 Veterans were served with 56 total trips-
  1. Baltimore/ 17 Veterans/ 32 trips
  2. Fort Detrick/ 3 Veterans/ 4 trips
  3. Walter Reed/ 1 veteran/ 5 trip
  4. Martinsburg / 6 Veterans/ 9 Trips
  5. Loch Raven/ 4 Veteran/ 5 Trips
  6. Ft. Howard/ 1 Veteran/ 1 Trip
  7. Columbia/ 1 Veteran/ 1 Trip
  8. Caton Ave/ 1 Veteran/ 2 Trips
  9. Total cost of \$5,883.52

c. Employment Initiatives for Veterans Update (DLLR Representative -Tom Fort)- No Updates

3. Update on Veteran Direct Home and Community Based Services Program Grant (Veteran Service Staff) – No new Updates, 5 Veterans in program -everything continues to run smoothly.
4. Update on Veteran Services Program Grant (Veterans Service Staff) –Couple (Veteran & Spouse) applying for Housing – Veteran Receiving SSI, VASH approved Veteran signed up through Medicaid & enrolled in SSI. Enrolled in Shuttle, given voucher for meals.

## Carroll County Veterans Advisory Council Meeting

Meeting Date: June 20, 2023

Start Time: 2:00 pm

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

Chairperson: Bill Nash

Vice-Chair: Steve Whisler

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| <b>New Business</b>  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>Chair and Vice-Chair Nominations:</u> Accepted nominations for Chair: Bill Nash, Marc Fisher/ Accepted nominations for Vice Chair: Elaine May-Stem, Jim Duncan<br/>Following vote positions filled as- Chair: Bill Nash/ Vice Chair: Jim Duncan</li> <br/> <li>2. <u>Veteran Services Officer:</u> Bobbie Lawrence: part time position filled, starting Thursday- hope to have her be a part of the next meeting in July.</li> <br/> <li>3. <u>Senior on the Go Expo:</u> Victoria Parks: This year's Expo theme is Every Mind Matters: empathy, self-care, emotional health, exercise. Seminars and Demonstrations scheduled for the day, with lunch catered by Hashawa! Scheduled for Wednesday September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023 from 9am-2pm- Registration is open for vendors! If you would like to register for a booth or need additional information, contact Victoria Parks at 410-386-3818 or <a href="mailto:vparks@carrollcountymd.gov">vparks@carrollcountymd.gov</a></li> <br/> <li>4. <u>Garden of Hope:</u> Celene Steckel: Freedom District Lions Club offering property for Garden of Hope space. Request made for the VAC to support/advertise Garden. Garden is used as a therapeutic outlet for Veterans to promote coping with stress, PTSD, physical strengthening. Produce grown will be given back to the Veteran Community.<br/>Celene will share with Commissioner Rothstein the Veteran's Advisory Council's interest in having a garden in Carroll County.</li> </ol> |
| <b>Announcements</b> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Marc Fisher: Boys State- Camp at McDaniel with speakers coming out, staffed by American Legion member, open to rising Seniors across Maryland. Legion posts will sponsor boys for the weeklong camp. There is no access to cell phones/ internet, the boys learn about Government and processes, while establishing their own Governments within camp. Boys who attend camp are interested in going into the service academies after High School Graduation. A Girls State camp is open as well at separate location.<br/>Commissioner Kiler: May know some young men interested in Boys State, will work with Marc fisher.</li> <br/> <li>2. Celene Steckel: community events coming up within the county</li> </ol>   |

## Carroll County Veterans Advisory Council Meeting

Meeting Date: June 20, 2023

Start Time: 2:00 pm

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

Chairperson: Bill Nash

Vice-Chair: Steve Whisler

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
|                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Farm Museum Fireworks at 8pm on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023</li><li>-Shepherds Staff cookout from 12pm-2pm on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023</li><li>-Recreation &amp; Parks Summer Fest this Friday at Freedom Park.</li></ul> <p>3. Steve Whisler reminded everyone that to receive any back pay compensation for PACT act, claims need to be submitted by August 9th, 2023. Rick Pollard will put together information and provide to Bobbie Lawrence as Celene had suggested a press release be sent out.</p> |
| <b>Next Meeting Date</b> | <b>Tuesday, July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 2pm at the American Legion Post #31, 2 Sycamore Street, Westminster.</b>   |