BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Brown County

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VETERANS SUBCOMMITTEE
Bernie Erickson, Chair
Ed Koslowski, Vice Chair
Joan Brusky, Louise Dahlke,
Jim Haskins, Delores Pierce,
Duane Pierce, Joe Witkowski

**Running Total of Veterans' Certificates: 1804

VETERANS' RECOGNITION SUBCOMMITTEE
Tuesday, June 20, 2017
4:30 pm
Room 201, Northern Building
305 E. Walnut Street
Green Bay, WI

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE COMMITTEE MAY TAKE ACTION ON ANY ITEMS LISTED ON THE AGENDA

1. Call Meeting to Order.

2. Invocation.

3. Approve/Modify Agenda.

4. Approve/Modify Minutes of May 16, 2017.

5. Update re: Honor Rewards Program.

6. Update re: 2017 Veterans' Appreciation Day at the Brown County Fair.
   a. Set timeline.

7. Report from CVSO Jerry Polus.

8. Update re: Fishing Outing for PTSD Veterans held on June 6, 2017.

9. Report from Committee Members Present (Erickson, Brusky, Dahlke, Haskins, Koslowski, Pierce & Witkowski).

10. Such Other Matters as Authorized by Law.

11. Adjourn.

Bernie Erickson, Chair

Notice is hereby given that action by Committee may be taken on any of the items which are described or listed in this agenda. Please take notice that it is possible additional members of the Board of Supervisors may attend this meeting, resulting in a majority or quorum of the Board of Supervisors. This may constitute a meeting of the Board of Supervisors for purposes of discussion and information gathering relative to this agenda.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY
VETERANS' RECOGNITION SUBCOMMITTEE

Pursuant to Section 19.84, Wis. Stats., a regular meeting of the **Brown County Veterans' Recognition Subcommittee** was held on Tuesday, May 16, 2017 at 4:30 p.m. in Room 201 of the Northern Building, 305 E. Walnut Street, Green Bay, Wisconsin.

PRESENT: Chair Bernie Erickson, Jim Haskins, Louise Dahlke, Ed Koslowski, Duane Pierce, Jerry Polus, Joan Brusky
EXCUSED: Delores Pierce, Joe Witkowski

**Running Total of Veterans' Certificates: 1802

1. **Call Meeting to Order.**

   The meeting was called to order by Chair Bernie Erickson at 4:30 pm.

2. **Invocation.**

3. **Approve/Modify Agenda.**

   Motion made by Duane Pierce, seconded by Ed Koslowski to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. **Approve/Modify Minutes of April 18, 2017.**

   Motion made by Jim Haskins, seconded by Joan Brusky to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. **Budget Status Financial Report for March, 2017.**

   Chair Erickson explained this report shows the dollars that go into and come out of the account and is provided for informational purposes. He noted that any money remaining in the account at the end of the year gets carried over to the following year.

6. **Acceptance of Donations.**
   a. **$1,000 from Associated Bank.**
   b. **$300 from Amvets**

   Motion made by Duane Pierce, seconded by Ed Koslowski to approve the donations of $1,000 from Associated Bank and $300 from Amvets. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. **Update re: Honor Rewards Program.**

   CVSO Jerry Polus informed there are currently 81 businesses participating in the Honor Rewards program and 216 veterans have received cards to date. Requests for cards continue to come in regularly and Polus noted that veterans who do not request cards can still take part in the discounts by using other forms of military identification.

8. **Update re: 2017 Veterans' Appreciation Day at the Brown County Fair.**
   a. **Set Timeline.**

   With regard to the Navy band, Polus informed he still has not received a commitment from then, but he will make contact prior to our next meeting with the hopes that they will be able to let him know if they are available. He feels there should be a Plan B in place in case the Navy band is unable to play, and this was discussed. The

subcommittee is leaning towards a band from one of the local high schools and contact will be made with them as soon as Polus has word back from the Navy band.

Louise Dahlke had a copy of the draft of the Fair Association poster available for the Subcommittee's review. There will also be a tri-fold flier listing all of the events going on that will be handed out at parades throughout the summer. She noted the only thing going on on Sunday is a band and the horse pull, neither of which should compete with the veteran's event.

Haskins mentioned earlier discussions regarding electronic tickets. Dahlke informed the tickets will be available online to print. She does not know how this will work with the tickets for veterans; this is something the Fair will have to work out. She also informed that the homemakers group, which is part of the extension education program, has a mobile sign that lights up that they need to get rid of. If the Fair Association does not want this sign, she is offering it to this group. The group indicated that it would be nice to have and discussed the options for storing the sign. Dahlke will keep the group updated on this.

The stage was also discussed and it was indicated that the same size as last year would be sufficient and Dahlke will get this ordered and delivered. The tent will also be the same size as was used in the past, however, it was noted that the location of the tent may be slightly different, although in the same general area.

Koslowski said he would like to send out save the date cards to the veterans' organizations so they are all aware of the date of the event. He will get the cards printed and addressed and then drop them off in Polus's office for mailing. He also said he has received a few e-mails from groups wanting to help out in honoring the Purple Heart recipients and the disabled veterans and it looks like the DAV will be doing the honor guard. A guest speaker was also discussed and Polus indicated that he will find someone and keep this group advised. Haskins said Holly from the Big and Tasty band has volunteered to sing the National Anthem. Erickson informed he will start to collect door prizes for the event in June or July. The dog tags were also discussed as a hand out item and Erickson said we should not order as many as we did last year as there were a lot left over. He will also have County Board staff create a certificate honoring the Purple Heart and disabled veterans to be handed out with the dog tags.

9. **Report from CVSO Jerry Polus.**

Polus noted he has been doing some outreach work and recently did a presentation at Cotter Funeral Home with Lori from his office. They discussed burial benefits for veterans and a pension program for long-term care. The program went very well and was well attended. They did a similar presentation recently at Resurrection Lutheran Church.

10. **Possible Outing for PTSD Veterans.**

Erickson noted his fishing club has been working with Project Healing Waters regarding a fly fishing event for veterans at the lake the fishing club adopted at the Botanical Gardens. An outing has tentatively been scheduled for June 6.

11. **Report from Committee Members Present (Erickson, Dahlke, Haskins, Koslowski, Pierce & Witkowski, Brusky).**

-Erickson did not have anything further to report.

-Dahlke did not have anything further to report.

-Koslowski said he heard the Fair has already made a determination that Veterans Appreciation Day will be held on Sunday next year. Dahlke said that is the information that was in a letter that had been mailed out. Erickson noted the admission price is reduced on Sundays which might actually be an advantage. Dahlke added that all of the exhibits and everything else stays in place all the way up to closing time on Sunday at 6:00 pm. Koslowski feels many of the veterans who attend the event also like to enjoy the rest of the things going on at the Fair. Dahlke said the main reason the Fair is moving the event is to get away from the conflicts and distractions with the rodeo. The only things going on on Sunday other than the Veterans event is the horse pull and band.

-Haskins informed he has seen ads on TV for the Wounded Warriors which feature Trace Adkins and asked if this is the same Wounded Warriors group that was not using donations properly in the past. Koslowski responded that he has not followed up on this recently but Haskins could check the charity navigator website to find information.

Haskins also informed he had recently seen information that Vietnam Veterans could start signing up for Honor Flights as of May 1. He also said he had recently attended a veteran's night at the 141 Speedway, but other than putting some flags on the brochure, the veterans were not really mentioned.

Haskins continued that veterans will be admitted to Heritage Hill at no charge on May 29. A ceremony will be held at 10:00 am. He also talked about an article he read regarding a deceased Vietnam veteran with no casket. The family could not afford a casket, but when a funeral home found out about the situation a casket was donated. Haskins also talked about several other things, including a 111 year old veteran who said the key to a long life is God, cigars and whiskey straight up or in coffee.

-Koslowski informed he had received an e-mail from a Hmong woman asking for help with a military funeral for her father, who was recruited by the CIA with the special forces unit. Her father is not a US citizen so cannot get full military honors, but Koslowski has been working with Polus on this to get something set up for the funeral which will be on June 5.

Koslowski also said he had received a text from Ken Corry recently regarding the NEW Veterans Facebook page. Corry had set up a google calendar which covers events across the state. Koslowski will forward the information to anyone who would like to join the Facebook page.

-Pierce reminded that the Veterans Pow Wow in Keshena will take place this weekend with a flag raising ceremony at 6:00 pm on Friday. The main day will be Saturday and Rolling Thunder will be doing a table ceremony sometime between 11:00 am – 1:00 pm. He said it is a great event and encouraged the group to check it out. He also mentioned the Rolling Thunder raffle for the four-wheeler and trailer and indicated that he has tickets if anyone is interested.

-Brusky informed the new Meijer grocery store that recently opened made a donation of $25,000 to the veterans' memorial planned for Howard.

12. **Such Other Matters as Authorized by Law.**

Erickson asked that Joan Brusky be added to the letterhead and distribution list for this subcommittee.

13. **Adjourn.**

Motion made by Jim Haskins, seconded by Duane Pierce to adjourn at 5:26 pm. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted,

Therese Giannunzio
Recording Secretary