

**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, August 16, 2011 at 5:15 p.m., in Room 201 of the Northern Building, 305 E. Walnut Street, Green Bay, Wisconsin.

PRESENT: Chair Bernie Erickson, Jim Haskins, Delores Pierce, Duane Pierce, Joe Witkowski, John Maino, Jerry Polus
EXCUSED: Sherry Steenbock, Don Bettine, John Walschinski, Troy Ness

**Running Total of Veterans' Certificates: 1193

1. **Call Meeting to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Bernie Erickson at 5:15 p.m.

2. **Invocation by Jim Haskins.**

3. **Approve/Modify Agenda:**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY DUANE PIERCE, SECONDED BY JOHN MAINO TO APPROVE.
Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

4. **Approve/Modify Minutes of July 19, 2011:**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY JIM HASKINS, SECONDED BY DUANE PIERCE TO APPROVE.
Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

5. **Discussion re: Brown County Fair (August 20, 2011).**

Jerry Polus went through the final arrangements for the Fair. He stated that 45 – 50 members of the Pulaski Band, along with several parent chaperones will arrive by bus at the South entrance of the Fairgrounds at approximately 11:15 a.m. Food vouchers will be ready to be distributed to the band director. The band's performance will last approximately 30 – 45 minutes.

Polus stated that he will be meeting with the Master of Ceremonies, Tom Mahoney, in the next several days to go over the agenda which will be as follows: welcoming remarks by Tom Mahoney, posting of colors by Duck Creek VFW, National Anthem performed by Pulaski Band, remarks by County Executive Troy Streckenbach, performance by the band, remarks by Veterans' Recognition Subcommittee Chair Bernie Erickson and drawing for door prizes which will be handled by Jim Haskin, Joe Witkowski and Jerry Polus. The entire program should last approximately 1 – 1 ¼ hours.

John Maino reported that he had spoken with several contacts with regard to getting a banner donated for the stage area; however, feedback he received was that in previous years there had been some problems displaying advertising within the Fairgrounds and therefore his contacts were reluctant to donate a banner. There will be no banner for this year, however, both Duane Pierce and Joe Witkowski stated that they had possible contacts to have banners donated and they will follow up on this for next year.

Polus also stated that he had spoken with John Walschinski who assured him that a donation was in the mail from Tweet Garot for \$750.00 to sponsor the Appreciation Day activities. This donation will cover the costs of the bus, food vouchers and door prizes.

6. **Report from CVSO Jerry Polus:**

CVSO Jerry Polus reported on three topics:

- ❖ He wished to thank John Maino for his help with an injured veteran who came into the Veterans Service Office in need of financial assistance. Maino was able to provide funds that had been donated by Vander Vest Cycles to this vet to assist him with his rent and help him get back on his feet.
- ❖ Second, Polus reported that the Green Bay Bull Frogs will be holding a fundraising event the weekend of August 27, 2011 and will be donating the profits which they project to be between \$4,000 - \$5,000 to the Veterans Emergency Fund.
- ❖ Finally, Polus reported that he had recently had a budget meeting with the County Executive which went very well and he felt there should not be a problem with his department remaining fully staffed.

Polus also indicated that one other item he wished to discuss was the topic of donations to this subcommittee. Chair Erickson felt that in the current economic times, it may not be feasible to go out and ask companies to make a single large donation. He shared an idea he came up with whereby the subcommittee could create a form to be presented to businesses with different donation levels, similar to a "gold, silver and bronze" type of donation system; however, he suggested a red, white and blue theme instead. He felt that allowing a donor to choose the amount they desired to donate may be a better approach than going out and asking for a single, large donation. This idea will be discussed in greater detail at a future meeting.

7. Report from Committee Members Present (Haskins, Polus, Pierce):

- ❖ Jim Haskins had several interesting tidbits of information to share with the Subcommittee, among them was:
 - That Emporia, Kansas was the founding city of Veterans Day.
 - That the Gillett High School football stadium will be named after Vietnam Vet, Franklin James Runge, killed March 12, 1968.
 - That Oklahoma has 69 different military-related license plates available, more than any other state.
- ❖ Jerry Polus reported that the next monthly veterans program at the ADRC will be on August 26 and will include a bus trip to the King VA facility and a boat cruise on the Chain of Lakes in Waupaca.
- ❖ Duane Pierce thanked John Maino for his help with the recent fundraiser at Vander Vest Harley. He also reported that the ride at Pearly Gates had raised a little more than \$53,000 for Vietnam veterans. Pierce also stated that there will be a candlelight ceremony on POW Day on September 16, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the POW flagpole at the Brown County Courthouse and he urged committee members to spread the word.

8. Such Other Matters as Authorized by Law.

9. Adjourn.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY JIM HASKINS, SECONDED BY DUANE PIERCE TO ADJOURN AT 5:53 P.M. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted,

Therese Giannunzio
Recording Secretary