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, June 18, 2019 at 4:30 pm in Room 201 of the Northern Building, 305 E. Walnut Street, Green Bay, Wisconsin.

PRESENT: Joan Brusky, Joe Aulik, Duane Pierce, Bernie Erickson, Jim Haskins, Jerry Polus, Ken Corry, Ken Metoxen
EXCUSED: Ed Koslowski, Louise Dahlke

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1. **Call Meeting to Order.**

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

2. **Approve/Modify Agenda.**

   Motion made by Duane Pierce, seconded by Jerry Polus to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. **Approve/Modify Minutes of March 19, 2019.**

   Motion made by Duane Pierce, seconded by Jim Haskins to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. **Budget Status Financial Report for December, 2018.**

   Motion made by Duane Pierce, seconded by Joe Aulik to accept financial report. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. **Discussion re: Honor Rewards Program.**

   CVSO Joe Aulik informed there are currently 94 area businesses participating in the program and 316 veterans are currently enrolled. Erickson reminded Aulik to talk to the Register of Deeds so they can have someone at the Fair to sign veterans up for the program.

6. **Discussion re: 2019 Veterans Appreciation Day at the Brown County Fair.**

   This event is on Sunday, August 18. Aulik noted that in the past this event was held on Saturday and asked for the history on it and if there was better attendance when the event was on a Saturday. It was noted that the Fair Board requested the change to Sunday. Erickson pointed out that people seem to like the Sunday because admission is half price and people are more inclined to bring their children or grandchildren and families.

   Aulik shared a sample of the poster for the event, a copy of which is attached. He also mentioned that a lot of major venues have gotten away from standard printed tickets and the possibility of getting away from tickets and having people present their military ID or discharge certificate for admittance was discussed. Erickson noted people who come to the gate without a ticket but with a military ID are still admitted and Brusky informed that she has been admitted by simply saying she was there for the Appreciation Day event. Erickson feels this event is promoted enough in advance that people should not have a problem getting a ticket and Pierce added that the tickets help keep track of attendance. Erickson also noted that the Fair Board's preference was to continue with the paper tickets when this was discussed last year.

   Aulik had a copy of the tickets for this year's event which were very similar to last year's tickets and said they will be available in the Veterans' Office, ADRC, Green Bay Veterans' Clinic and the Vets Center. Erickson added that

when the tickets are ready, he brings them around to the area reserve centers and recruiting offices and in exchange he is usually able to get a number of items donated that are then used as door prizes at the event.

Aulik also distributed the agenda, a copy of which is attached. The time of the information tent was discussed and it was decided to list the times as 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. The USAF Band of Mid-America/Liberty Winds Ensemble will play from 2:00 – 3:00 and then the ceremony will start at 3:00 pm. It was noted that we need to find a group to do the posting of colors, but this should not be a problem. The Star Spangled Banner will be sung by Jess Bergemann. George Dexter will likely do the prayer again and County Executive Troy Streckenbach will do the welcome. It was noted that a speaker is optional, and more consideration will be given to this. The recognition of Peacetime and Non-Combat Military Veterans will be done by Erickson before the colors are retired and the door prizes are given out. Brusky indicated a willingness to solicit door prizes, as long as it would not be against County policy. It was noted that in the past, Taps was played at the end of the event, but it was decided to skip that this year.

7. **Review tickets and posters from last year's Appreciation Day at the Fair event.**

See discussion regarding tickets and posters at Item 6 above.

8. **Discussion re: Possibly Honoring Peacetime and Non-Combat Veterans at the Fair.**

County Board staff will draft a certificate for this year's event to be distributed to those being honored. Corry suggested that Erickson recognize and thank the peacetime and non-combat veterans during the event, but that the certificates not say *thank you for your non-combat*. Instead he suggested something like *thank you for service and dedication to this country*. Erickson suggested the certificate say *honoring peacetime and non-combat veterans*. Corry disagreed and felt that *non-combat* may be seen as a slap in the face to some veterans. He feels during the ceremony we should say anyone who served in peacetime and non-combat veterans should come up and get their certificate; he does not like peacetime and non-combat appearing on the certificate. The certificate language was discussed further and Aulik suggested that the certificates reference peacetime, but not non-combat. The final decision was for the certificate to say *honoring peacetime and non-combat veterans* and then *thank you for your service*.

The dog tags that will be given out with the certificates were also discussed. It was decided to go with a teslin tag with ring at a cost of 88 cents each for a quantity of 250. The design and wordage on the tags was discussed and members felt that keeping the language somewhat generic would be good as then any leftover tags could be given out to veterans at other locations and events. One side of the tag will read "Brown County Thanks You For Your Service" and the other side will read "Honoring Peacetime and Non-Combat Veterans". Erickson will get a proof from the company before ordering.

9. **Discussion Re: Thank You Certificates for donations for Veterans Appreciation Day at the Fair.**

This Item was not discussed at this meeting.

10. **Report of CVSO Joe Aulik.**

Aulik did not have anything to report that has not already been discussed.

11. **Report from Committee Members Present (Erickson, Aulik, Brusky, Corry, Dahlke, Habeck, Haskins, Koslowski, Metoxen, Pierce, Polus).**

-Erickson – No report.

-Aulik – No report.

-Brusky – No report.

-Corry - Ken brought up the new expo center and asked for clarification as to what the name of the facility will be. Erickson responded that it will be called Brown County Veterans Memorial Complex. The plan is to put a curved wall out on the front corner with that name on it and there will also be a number of military artifacts throughout. Corry also questioned what will happen with the memorial that was between the Arena and Shopko Hall and it was indicated that it has been removed and will be relocated to another grassy area. Corry also informed that the light for the flag needs to be replaced at the memorial behind the Neville Public Museum; he noted that if the flag is not lit, it should be taken down at night. Corry concluded by saying there is a rock at Leicht Park that says there is a flag pole in a certain location that is the most southeast corner of Fort Howard, but the flag pole is not there and the rock has been moved. He feels strongly that the flag pole be located and the rock be put back where it belongs because he does not want to lose the historical history of Brown County. Erickson informed that that would be a City issue. Corry would like this subcommittee to agree that this is something we should push. Erickson feels the first thing we would need to do is find out why the flag pole was moved. Corry would like to see a letter sent by this subcommittee to the Historical Society President for Brown County to gather more information as to why the flag pole is missing and the rock has been moved and he will send such a letter. He reiterated he does not like to see historical memorials go away.

Dahlke – Not present; no report.

-Habeck - Not present; no report (Erickson noted he has not been in attendance for quite some time and he will reach out to him to see if he still intends to be part of this subcommittee)

-Haskins – Jim informed he recently attended the Green Bay Blizzard Veterans Appreciation game and it was very nice. They had pizza for veterans as well as other food and treats and Haskins said about half the arena was full for the event. He also talked about publicity for the Fair and noted that Jess who sings the National Anthem will promote the Fair. Haskins had a list of information she asked for to publicize the event and County Board staff will provide the information directly to her. Haskins noted that just dropping off a poster at a TV station is not enough so he would like to have Jess involved as well. Erickson added that he will contact the TV stations soon to let them know the event is coming up. Haskins concluded that he is glad to be back to the meetings.

-Koslowski – Not present; no report.

-Metoxen – Kerry noted the LPGA is coming up at Thornberry on July 4, 5, 6 and 7 and veterans get in free. There will be a veterans pavilion at Hole 14 with drinks and snacks. There is a shuttle available as well that will take veterans right to the pavilion. Parking is available at NWTC and then there is a shuttle to the golf course.

-Pierce – Snake informed the Pearly Gates 14th Annual Ride will be held on July 13. Veterans who served in Afghanistan will be honored at the ceremony before the ride. There are still tickets available for the big raffle for $100 each. Only 700 tickets are being sold and the top prize is $15,000. Music will be provided by Panic Station after the ride. Pierce also said that September 12 – 15 The Wall That Heals will be at the Manitowoc County Fairgrounds. The wall will be escorted by motorcycles into Manitowoc on September 10 at 4:00 pm. On Thursday, September 12 there will be a welcome home ceremony at 6:30 pm, a candlelight vigil will be held on the 13th at 7:30, a remembrance ceremony will be held at 1:00 pm on the 14th and a closing ceremony will be held on the 15th at 2:00 pm. Snake can provide a number for anyone interested in volunteering and he said that once the display opens on Thursday, it is open 24/7. He encouraged everyone to see this as it is the best replica of the wall and was made by the same people who made the one in Washington DC. He volunteered when the wall was in Crivitz and said it was one of the best experiences of his life.

-Polus – No report.

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

Haskins said he would like to have the invocation restored on the agenda since he is able to attend meetings again. Erickson was agreeable to this as long as it is non-denominational and does not refer to any specific religion.

13. **Adjourn.**

Motion made by Ken Corry, seconded by Joe Aulik to adjourn at 5:05 pm. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted,

Therese Giannunzio
Administrative Specialist

BROWN COUNTY FAIR

Sunday, August 18th, 2019

MILITARY AND VETERANS APPRECIATION DAY

Free All Day Admission for Military and
Veterans and one Guest
(Midway Rides Not Included)
Additional guests to include midway rides - $7.00

HONORING Peacetime and Non-Combat Veterans

Meet & Greet Area Veteran Organizations
& learn about VA Benefit Programs
10 AM to 4 PM

Veterans Program @ 3 PM
Commemorative Ceremony for
Peacetime and Non-Combat Veterans

Music by U.S. Air Force Band
of Mid-America Liberty Winds
Ensemble
2-3 PM

Advance Tickets Required & Available at

Brown County Veterans Office	Aging Disability & Resource Center	GB VA Clinic	Vets Center
305 E. Walnut St. RM. 300	300 S. Adams St.	2851 University Ave.	1600 S. Ashland Ave.

Sponsored by Brown County Veterans Recognition Committee,
Brown County Fair Association

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Brown County Military and Veterans Appreciation Day

Sunday August 18th, 2019

AGENDA:

10 A.M. - 3 P.M. - Information tent with Veterans Organizations and VA representatives

2 P.M. - 3 P.M. - Music by USAF Band of Mid-America/Liberty Winds Ensemble

3 P.M. - 4 P.M. - Ceremony

- Welcome by Master of Ceremonies - Bernie Ericson
- Posting of Colors - American Legion Pledge of Allegiance - Jim Haskins
- Star Spangled Banner - Jess Bergemann
- Chaplain Prayer - George Dexter
- Welcome by Troy Streckenbach-Co. Executive - TBD
- Speaker - TBD
- Recognition of Peacetime and Non-Combat Military and Veterans - Bernie Ericson
- Retirement of Colors - American Legion
- Door Prize Drawing - Bernie Ericson