



WHITESTOWN VETERANS COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting

February 21, 2019

7:00 PM

Whitestown Municipal Complex - Conference Room

6210 Veterans Drive

Whitestown, Indiana

MINUTES

1. OPENING THE MEETING

A. Call to Order

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Roll Call

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. Veteran's resources web page – Sonny

- Sonny wanted to have a webpage dedicated to Veterans resources.
- This page will be on whitestown.in.gov under residents and will be titled "Veteran's Resources"
- This will list resources that are already in existence that Veterans may utilize. It will hold information containing suicide help lines, VA care and benefits information, Post 410 and additional resources that are TBD.
- This page will continue to grow and will be looked at monthly to ensure that the links are still working and will be done at the monthly meeting.
- **Due Outs**

- Nate will create page and VC members will email Nate with items to populate it with.

B. President and Vice President Update

- Derrick A. Ford was voted new President
- Stacy Dieckman was voted new Vice President
- **Due Outs**
 - Nate will update webpage for the committee to reflect the changes.
 - Website needs to be updated to reflect EVERY MONTH and not EVERY OTHER MONTH
 - Change Mike Spidel's title to "Boone County Veteran Service Officer (Ex-officio, Non-Voting)"
 - Order each

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. Indy Honor Flights (IHF) (Pete is point)

- Happens end of April. Departure date is TBD by IHF
- There is no cost associated in 2019 for the WTVC to engage this opportunity
- Our objective is to
 - Attend the 2019 IHF as a branded committee in a volunteer capacity during the departure at the IND Airport. This may be subject to need and change according to IHF needs.
 - This recon provides experience to see if this is something that we want to participate with next year as a chaperone which does incur a cost. Cost for 2020 TBD.
 - Send a WT Veteran on the flight. There is no cost for a Veteran that is a recipient of the IHF benefit.
- After conclusion of the initial IHF 2019:
 - We will work with WT Veterans who want to benefit from the IHF and lobby to get them moved up the list or keep their spot on the list.
 - Raise \$ from flag sales (or other) to cover cost of VC member(s) to chaperone the 2020 trip.
- WT will provide Polo shirts embroidered with WT Logo and "Veterans Committee" and shall be blue in nature. Nate will provide Derrick with final color selection. Sizes were collected and 1 XL and 2 L will be ordered as extras. – **Nate** –
- **Due Out – 2/21**
 - **Pete – Liaison between WTVC and IHF**
 - ✓ Make contact with a representative of IHF.
 - ✓ Provide the WTVC an email with the finalized departure date for the 2019 flight as soon as date is known.

- **LI – Liaison between WTVC and WT recipient for 2020 flight**
 - ✓ Make contact with a WT Vet who has already expressed desire to attend an IHF.
- **Nate**
 - ✓ Provide Derrick a list of color options to finalize short sleeve polo purchase

B. Flag Replacement Plan (FRP) – (Objective and plan still need refinement)

- Our objective is to provide flags and initial flag installation kits purchase at WT sanctioned events that generate an appropriation for the WTVC's budget line item.
- Our plan it to:
 - Provide an opportunity for patrons to purchase a replacement or new flag kit for wall installation for their home or business.
 - Make flags available at the WT Farmers Market throughout the 2019 season (estimated to be 4 May – Sep) and at the Independence Day fireworks display on 3 July 2019.
 - Provide a discount for a patron that makes a 1:1 exchange as a replacement program.
 - Use funds on programs that benefit WT Veterans or what is within the bounds of WT ordinances once dollars are raised.
- Initial concept
 - Lobby Lowe's and other large businesses for the products we are seeking.
 - Take proceeds from that to purchase additional inventory.
- Measure(s) of effectiveness
 - Preliminary discussion creates this metric based on the number of flags we initially receive through donation or purchase vs sales at
 - ✓ Farmers Market 2019
 - ✓ Independence Day Fireworks 3 July 2019
 - ✓ Others TBD
- Due Outs
 - **Joe**
 - ✓ Will bring to a vote at Post 410 at their next meeting on 11 March 2019 if they are able to support the potential influx from exchanged flags for burning and provide an email to the WTVC on the outcome of that vote by 12 March.
 - **Derrick and Nate**
 - ✓ go to Lowe's and lobby for 10-20 flags. This will be completed by 11 March and outcome will be emailed to the WTVC.
 - ✓ Derrick will look at cost estimating several local and non-local sources for product and provide at next meeting.
- To discuss at next meeting:

- Whose idea was this initially
- Cost of different flag options
- Additional measures of effectiveness
- Progress on receiving flag donations
- Change plan name since we are providing new flags and a replacement if old one is received

C. Project 1 (Stacy is point)

- This project will continue to be refined and may have its own meeting on a separate date. Next month, 25 minutes at the end of old business will be dedicated to this prior to new business. This meeting went long due to discussion this topic.
- Our objective is to assist transitioning Veterans after being honorably discharged from any branch of service, by providing a place to reside while in short commuting distance to work allowing them to transition to civilian life.
- This is the WTVC single long-term project.
- Our plan is to:
 - Run this program with a sample size of 4-7 male Veterans
 - Provide a mid-level or graduated program for Veterans
 - Provide housing for veterans during this program through a possible cost share with federal or state agencies or graduated plan fee (similar to the SBA's 8A Program)
 - Lobby local businesses to hire our Veterans.
- Stacy has opened up discussion with an industry specialist that will on a no cost basis facilitate this process from a Q&A perspective.
- Derrick will contact Mike Spidel, Boone County Veteran Service Officer and request his attendance at March 2019 meeting to provide input for this project.

5. ADJOURN



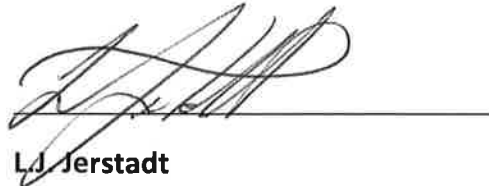
Derrick Ford, President



Stacy Dieckman, Vice President



Vernie May



L.J. Jerstadt

Pete Steitz

Pete Steitz