



Sullivan County

Veterans Committee

Meeting Minutes - Final

Chairman Luis Alvarez
Vice Chairman George Conklin
Committee Member Nicholas Salomone Jr.
Committee Member Nadia Rajs
Committee Member Ira Steingart

Thursday, February 2, 2023

11:00 AM

Government Center

Call To Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Alvarez called the Veterans Committee meeting to order at 11:04AM.

Roll Call

Present: Chairman Luis Alvarez, Vice Chairman George Conklin and Nicholas Salomone Jr.
Absent: Nadia Rajs
Arrived Late: Ira Steingart

Note

Robert Doherty
Joshua Potosek, Michael McGuire, Dan Hust, Tom Cawley, Stephen Walsh
Lise Kennedy, Martha Scoppa, Maureen Lerner
Derek Kirk (Democrat)

At this point, Ira Steingart joined the meeting at 11:05AM.
Veterans:

Joy Sennett, Rolling Thunder
Jim Sennett, Rolling Thunder
Randy Peers, S/C, V/C
Howie Goldsmith, VFW 5499-American Legion 73 and AMVETS 50
Lauren Roman, Vet 2 Vet
Paul Slavik, Sullivan County Sheriff's Office
Butch Kortright, Sullivan County Long Beards
Stephen Walsh, Veterans Service Agency

Opening Remarks - Luis Alvarez, Chairman

Chairman Alvarez had no opening remarks.

Commanders' Reports - Veterans Service Organizations

Howie Goldsmith, Commander gave a report.

Stephen Walsh, Commander gave a report.

Director's Report

Veterans Director Stephen Walsh gave a report on the Veterans Service Agency.

Referred local veterans & families in crisis to the Community Assistance Center.

Worked with local organizations, Vet 2 Vet (ATI), Elks, Sullivan County Veterans Coalition to distribute holiday meals.

Assisted BATS House in Liberty with the TOYS FOR TOTS program

Organized clothing and toy distributions throughout the County with the YIT Foundation.

Worked with the Monticello Rotary & Kiwanis Clubs to distribute blankets, cards, and personal care items to veterans in local care facilities.

Both new VSO's have completed their accreditation training and will be licensed by the Office of General Council by the end of February. They have also completed Training, Responsibility, Involvement and Preparation of Claims (TRIP) training, and will be issued PIV security clearance, increasing office efficiency and productivity.

Worked with local law enforcement and medical facilities to streamline inpatient intake process for substance abuse and suicide prevention in the veterans' community.

PACT Act claims are finally being adjudicated by VA, however, although we submitted many of these claims two (2) years ago or longer, the VA will only pay retroactive pay to the date that the PACT Act became law (8/10/2022).

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Resolutions: None

There were no resolutions.

Adjourn

There being no further business, Ira Steingart moved to adjourn, seconded by George Conklin. The Veterans Committee adjourned at 11:12AM.