

Veterans Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

January 11, 2022

Present: Don Maloy, Terry Young, Michael Jenet, Chaz Tedesco, Thomas Brick, Stephanie Stickler, Maida Pearce, Josh Gardner, Victor Lagunas, Femmi Clemons

Next meeting: March 8th, 4-6pm, The GC in Brighton – Room W8101

1. Introduction of new Assistant VSO

Victor Lagunas is happy to join the team and provide support to the group wherever needed!

2. Memorial Name Competition Update

The contest is actively being advertised on social media and county news platforms and had a press release in late 2021. The end of the competition is in February and as the group has not received submissions yet, members will begin brainstorming names suggestions just as a precaution. The final flier for the competition will also be sent out to the group for individual dissemination. The memorial is expected to be completed by July and there will be events that the community will be able to view the memorial during at the Regional Park, hosted by the VAC. There are towers being placed so the public can view the development from an upper level.

Action Items:

- Brainstorm names for memorial as backup (ALL)
- Send flier to members for the competition (FEMMI)
- Get a trail/route map for 2022 events. Include route to the memorial (FEMMI)

3. Challenge Coin Status Update

Terry hadn't heard back from post 1 about the challenge coin so Femmi contacted someone she knows at the post who manages the Art Commission. He said that there is a committee that is working on the coin and that he will get an update for us on the status asap. If the coin is not in progress through post 1 the way we anticipated, the commission will change course on a design for the coin.

Action Item:

- Let VAC know the status update once one is provided (FEMMI)
- Josh suggested the air national guard as a backup for the coin challenge if needed

4. New Mt Carmel Update

Femmi contacted the City Manager for Commerce city regarding using the old Commerce City building for the "Mt Carmel" project but has not heard back. Chaz will attempt to make contact for us next to get some forward motion.

Action Item:

- Femmi was contacted about the proposal and has sent over the materials for the center and the goal which will be reviewed by the council in Commerce City because they were already working on RFP to fill the location in question.

5. Website Updates and Sub Committee Discussion

The VAC has a logo, letterhead, and QR code developed.

The business cards are being printed and should be in office by next week (January 18).

There also is development of a 1 page informational “flier” for the VAC being done and printed as well to hand out to folks in the community.

A table cover, EZ up, and vests are ordered with the VAC logo on them and QR code on the table cover.

The banner will go onto the website, but a workgroup will be formed for the site changes in the beginning of 2022. We also discussed possibly having a Facebook instead of adding to the website. Maida said that she would like to champion this aspect. We currently have suggestions for adding:

- An achievement/ projects page or section
- Calendar of events/ veteran’s events
- Pictures and bio of members/ a meet your member’s section
- Scrapbook section to show pictures of us at events/ actually working

Action Item:

- Connect Maida with Communications team to discuss how she can be involved in the Facebook concept (FEMMI)
- Will we be creating a subcommittee or just making some revisions to the county webpage?

6. 2022 Calendar of Events Review

The 2022 calendar is below which also includes dates **in red**. If there is an event that someone wants to help plan, please let us know. We should spend time next meeting ironing out some more of the details of events.

Action Items:

- Femmi will contact the outreach coordinator for the county to see about providing resource information at events in addition to resource lists already compiled by the VSO.
- Femmi will update surveys and bring them for approval before printing to provide at events.
- Femmi contacted the regional park team to get a map developed for the events to include routes to the memorial for viewing.
- Femmi will ask when the disk golf course may be completed in 2023
- Everyone will begin planning the events they volunteered for and will bring updates on progress to next meeting.

The planning was divided as follows:

- **Don** - Bowling Tournament at the summit (January 24 from 3pm-630pm with half hour before and after for set-up & clean-up @ the Summit Bowling Alley in Thornton. Event Flier is attached for dissemination.)
- **Don** - Volleyball tournament at the Oasis (February)

- **Stephanie** - Family Bike Ride at Riverdale Regional Park (March 19) Stephanie will contact Boyers Coffee and see if she can find a veteran food truck that would be willing to do free or discounted food at the event.
- **Allison** - Military Child Month Art Celebration (April)
- **Allison & Femmi** - Military Spouse Paint and Sip (May)
- **Allison & Femmi** - Relay Races at Riverdale Regional (May 21)
- **Don** - Golf Tournament in Commerce City (June)
- **Don** - Fishing tournament/July 3rd event at Riverdale Regional (July 16)
- **Allison** - Golf tournament with Bodhi Battalion (August)
- **Allison & Femmi** - 5K events at Riverdale (October 15)
- **Don** - Yoga at Red Rocks with Comeback Yoga (September)
- **Everyone** - Trunk or Treat (October 31 @HSC?)
- **Terry** - Art “museum” with VFW post 1 (November)
- **Allison & Femmi** - 10K event at Riverdale Regional (November 19)
- **Everyone** - Hosted Veterans day event (discuss the location – Texas Roadhouse?) (November)
- **Everyone** - Holiday Chili Cookoff (December @GC?)

7. Other Items

Femmi will get calendar visits scheduled for updates on Bayoud, Built for Zero, and housing vouchers.

Femmi will contact folks about free food for events.

Allison will contact Left hand brewing about food for events.

8. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, March 8th, 4-6pm at the Adams County Government Center in Brighton – Room W8101.