



## DUBLIN VETERANS COMMITTEE

### NOVEMBER 17th, 2022 MEETING MINUTES

3:30 - 5:00 PM

#### 1. Call to Order/ Pledge of Allegiance

Jeff Noble called the November 17th, 2022 meeting of the Veteran's Committee to Order at 3:30 pm on November 17th, 2022, at Dublin City Hall (5555 Perimeter Drive).

#### 2. Roll Call

*Committee Members Present:* Jeff Noble (Chair), John Reiner, Tim Hansley, Charles Krumholtz, Mack Parkhill, Jan Rozanski

*Mike Kehoe joined virtually*

*Committee Members Absent:* Bonnie Garmy (Vice-Chair), Sean Clifton, Roger Ansel

*City Staff Present:* Kendel Blake, Emily Goliver, Lori Gischel, Carrie Ritzler, Leah Dotson, Tammy Lehnert

#### 3. Review of Minutes

Mr. Noble proposed a motion to approve the September 15th, 2022 meeting minutes. The motion was unanimously approved.

#### 4. Library QR Code

Charles Krumholtz thanked Emily and Kendel for their help on the implementation of the Library QR Code project. Mr. Krumholtz explained that they had met with Joe Yersavich from the Dublin Library and he was supportive of what the Committee was trying to do. The signs with the QR codes were placed in the library on Friday November 4<sup>th</sup> by city staff members Kendel Blake and Leah Dotson. Mr. Krumholtz shared that himself and Mike Kehoe personally tested out these QR codes and found that they worked fine on smart phone cameras but not on QR code readers. Mr. Krumholtz asked if City Staff knows how often these codes have been used since they were displayed in the library.

#### *Questions/Comments*

Kendel Blake stated that city staff reached out to the City's Brand Manager and as of November 17<sup>th</sup>, the codes have been scanned 57 times. Mr. Krumholtz suggested reporting the number of scans back to Joe Yersavich at the end of the month to update him on the progress of this project. Mr. Kehoe recommended using the camera over any QR scanner apps and stated that the number of hits may be reflective of their newness or because of Veteran's Day weekend.

Mr. Noble asked if the City has the same capability to check the number of QR code scans at the Grounds of Remembrance. Ms. Blake stated that the City does have this capability and Emily Goliver added that city staff can check those numbers for the Committee. City staff can access these numbers through impressions they receive on the website. This takes individuals to a certain video link, which is tracked through three different levels of viewer interaction. The number of seconds an individual spends on the video is also recorded.



## DUBLIN VETERANS COMMITTEE

### NOVEMBER 17th, 2022 MEETING MINUTES

3:30 - 5:00 PM

Mr. Kehoe added that the Committee also may want to consider adding another QR code sign on the first floor of the library as well. Mr. Noble asked if the City can see the number of scans on the QR codes next to each of the memorials in the Ground of Remembrance. Ms. Goliver stated that city staff can see the data regarding those signs as well.

#### **5. Military Roundtable Recording**

Mr. Noble stated that the Committee is trying to pick this agenda item back up, even though there is only one more recording this year until the program starts back up again in March. Mr. Noble mentioned that the individual who currently records these events can still record most of them, but not all. Mr. Noble asked if the City has the capability to record some of these roundtables and post them on the City website.

#### *Questions/Comments*

Ms. Goliver commented that the City can post these on the website and on YouTube, but staff needs the links to the recordings. Furthermore, Ms. Goliver noted that the City might not have the staff to participate in this session every time, but the City can get these out when the Committee has the recordings.

Mr. Kehoe asked if the full speech from the Veteran's Day Ceremony was available to view anywhere. Mr. Noble stated that it is on the individual who tapes the Military Roundtable's Vimeo account via a link that he can share. Lori Gischel shared that there is a video with clips of the speech on the website from Shared Vision. The City does have the full video available upon request, but it is not custom that the full video is on the website.

#### **6. Veterans Tax Break**

Mack Parkhill thanked Ms. Goliver and Ms. Blake for providing copies of information pertaining to this agenda item. Mr. Parkhill shared that the new City website had the exact information he was looking for regarding the median price of homes here in Dublin. Mr. Parkhill stated that the Committee was proceeding on this agenda item based on the idea of identifying the most number of veterans in 43016 and 43017 as possible. After having conversations with this committee and the Franklin County Veterans Services Commission, Mr. Parkhill recommended that a way to incentivize veterans to come forward could be to reduce/eliminate the real estate tax that goes to the City each year.

Referring to the sheets passed out to the committee members, Mr. Parkhill stated that there are 1,889 veterans living within the 43016 and 43017 zip codes. As the chart that details this information breakdown the demographics of these veterans, it may be interesting and valuable to this committee. Since the average home price in the area is around \$400,000, Mr. Parkhill calculated that each household would have to pay an average of \$240. Mr. Parkhill stated that if the Committee chose to move forward on this project that they would have to have conversations with Madison, Union, Delaware, and Franklin counties, and the City of Dublin would also have to agree on proceeding with this idea. Mr. Parkhill asked if the Committee would like to move forward with this as an approach.



## DUBLIN VETERANS COMMITTEE

### NOVEMBER 17th, 2022 MEETING MINUTES

3:30 - 5:00 PM

#### *Questions/Comments*

Tammy Lehnert stated that around 40% of the addresses located in zip codes 43016 and 43017 are not in the taxing jurisdiction for the City of Dublin. Ms. Lehnert shared that she would need a list of all of the 1,889 addresses to check if they are taxable Dublin residents, suggests providing the City with a spreadsheet so that they can run it through their GIS department.

Mr. Parkhill asked if it is possible to have this information by the next committee meeting. Ms. Lehnert responded that if the City has access to the addresses of these individuals then that will be possible. Ms. Goliver asked Mr. Parkhill if he possesses the addresses of these 1889 individuals. Mr. Parkhill responded that he does not have this information but that the State of Ohio must have a list of veterans in the state because they collect this information on state-distributed driver's licenses. Mr. Noble clarified that the 1889 number is census data.

Ms. Lehnert asked who compiled the report shared with the Committee. Mr. Noble shared that Matt Zelnik put this report together, but does not know if he can pull together the addresses in order to check if these individuals are Dublin taxable residents. Ms. Lehnert stated that she would just need the street number, street, city, and zip code. If that data cannot be shared, Ms. Lehnert suggested using the address checker tool on [dublinohiousa.gov/dublin-boundary-map/](http://dublinohiousa.gov/dublin-boundary-map/). Jan Rozanski asked how this benefit would get to veterans in nursing homes, medical facilities, and/or apartments as they do not directly pay property tax.

Ms. Goliver added that 37 individuals utilize the veterans discount at the DCRC, as the senior discount may provide older veterans with a cheaper rate. Ms. Goliver also added that there is not currently a discount rate for the pool membership, but that there is a military discount at the Dublin Irish Festival.

Mr. Noble stated that Mr. Rozanski's concerns are valid and that many veterans that do not directly own property would not see this proposed benefit. Tim Hansley recounted his idea from the previous committee meeting regarding a discount voucher for veterans that live in the Dublin community. Mr. Hansley stressed that writing a check/voucher of this kind would be easier for the Committee to pursue and could possibly be passed through a City Council ordinance. Mr. Hansley stated that this could also take the form of a pool pass or a DCRC membership and could be an annual occurrence. This would be a cheaper option for the City's budget and would eliminate the hassle/paperwork going through 4 different counties. Mr. Hansley commented that many people may not even be interested in this offer, so the impact on the budget would be relatively small.

Mr. Noble mentioned that not everyone uses the same services, suggesting that the voucher could be redeemable at several different locations. Mr. Hansley suggested that these could include free/discounted admission to the Irish Festival, the Abbey Theatre, etc. if an individual can prove they are a veteran and a resident. Mr. Hansley also recommended simply granting Dublin residents who are veterans a bonus check they can use on whatever



## **DUBLIN VETERANS COMMITTEE**

### **NOVEMBER 17th, 2022 MEETING MINUTES**

**3:30 - 5:00 PM**

they see fit. Ms. Goliver proposed that she and Ms. Blake compile research on these topics and bring it back to the Committee at a later date.

Mr. Parkhill stated that one answer to the veteran identification issue would be looking into the State of Ohio identification card process, recommending having individuals from the State process veteran identification documents on-site at gathering such as the Irish Festival. Mr. Noble shared that in the state of Ohio, one day of active service, duty other than training, or good paper identifies someone as a veteran. However, there are some individuals who have not actively served that could still be considered veterans, unless they have been deployed than they have the DD 214 form. Mr. Parkhill suggested that individuals could bring whatever proof they need to establish that they are actively serving/veterans.

Mr. Hansley stressed that this could contribute to the Committee's definition of a veteran within the ordinance regarding their chosen benefit. Mr. Kehoe agreed with Mr. Hansley, recommending that the Committee presents a complete, clearly defined explanation. Mr. Noble stated that Buck Bramlish could help the Committee with these distinctions.

#### **7. Upcoming Military/Veteran Appreciation Events**

Mr. Noble thanked those that attended the Veterans Day event and thanked Ms. Gischel for her help with the event. Mr. Parkhill stated that receiving the written work about veterans from the students was very touching.

Ms. Gischel and Mr. Rozanski mentioned the upcoming Wreaths Across America event on December 17<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Rozanski stated that it will be similar to the previous event with many of the same individuals participating as before, but with a different leader organizing. Markers in the cemetery will be placed the week prior so on the day of the event individuals will know where the grave sites are. Mr. Rozanski commented that they look forward to committee members attending to honor the roughly 374 veterans within the cemetery.

Mr. Noble asked about the progress on the cemetery preservation project. Ms. Goliver stated that this project is still in progress, but is experiencing a pause during the winter months. In a response to committee members' comments about the budget for this project, Ms. Goliver commented that she will have to check on this, but knows that there is an item for headstone repair.

Ms. Gischel thanked Councilmember John Reiner for speaking at the Veterans Day event.

#### **8. Other/New Business**

Mr. Noble shared that former City Manager Dana McDaniel asked that the Committee not promote him to an ex-officio member at this time, tabling the idea to grant Mr. McDaniel the ex-officio membership.



## **DUBLIN VETERANS COMMITTEE**

### **NOVEMBER 17th, 2022 MEETING MINUTES**

**3:30 - 5:00 PM**

Mr. Noble mentioned the upcoming Army – Navy game fundraiser hosted by the Dublin American Legion. Mr. Noble shared that there will be an auction and a football pool and hopes members will join.

Mr. Reiner and Mr. Noble commented again on the Veterans Day event, thanking Ms. Gischel and the Dublin City Schools for their help and participation.

Tom Holton recommended considering incoming and outgoing veterans when curating and maintaining a list of veterans in the Dublin community. Ms. Goliver informed the Committee that there is a packet the City sends out to new residents, but that the City is working to moving all of this info online. The City's Communication and Public Information Department has agreed to add a link to the Dublin Veterans Committee's website so incoming veterans can sign up for the email distribution list. Ms. Goliver suggested adding a form to signify that these new residents are veterans. The timeline on this process is unknown at this time as the new website just launched and staff is still working out all of the kinks.

#### **9. Adjourn**

**NEXT MEETING:** January 19, from 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm