



DUBLIN VETERANS COMMITTEE

JANUARY 19, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Noble called the January 19, 2023 meeting of the Dublin Veterans Committee to order at 3:30 pm in person.

2. Roll Call

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

Bonnie Gamary joined virtually

Committee Members Absent: Sean Clifton, Roger Ansel

City Staff Present: Emily Goliver, Carrie Ritzler, Mitchell Ament

3. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Noble proposed a motion to approve the November 17, 2022 meeting minutes. The motion was unanimously approved.

4. Salute to Services

Presentation by Dan Sullivan, Chris Stiffler and Kristina Khalili from The Memorial Tournament

The group spoke on how their initiatives surrounding the Memorial Day holiday relate to the annual Memorial Tournament event.

They also shared that they have procedures and programming in place, which leads up to the time of the tournament, in partnership with JobsOhio and the National Guard. They invite targeted Veterans groups to events at the Memorial Tournament. This includes recognition of Gold Star families, and persons returning from active duty.

They described that the honoree ceremony observes and recognizes leaders identified within the Veterans and active duty members of the community. Corporations host military families throughout the day at other events, and hospitality spaces are created specifically for military members of all branches. They advertise that a military ID badge is required to gain entry.

Huntington, Nationwide, and Workday have presented themselves to this group as sponsors of further events during the week. The NVMM also supports the programming.

Questions/Comments

Mr. Parkhill asked if members of the military are able to verify their identity with an ID card?

Mr. Sullivan stated, if an ID card is not presented, there is an honor system in place.



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Mr. Rozanski wanted to clarify if producing proof of service through the presentation of state ID is acceptable.

Mr. Sullivan's responded that this is acceptable.

Mr. Noble asked what day the brunch occurs on and if players come to this event.

Mr. Sullivan shared that it takes place on Monday. Players come on both Monday and Wednesday. A service member also has the opportunity to caddy for a player on the 16th hole.

Mr. Noble then asked that Mr. Sullivan plug the existing event that is sponsored by the Veterans Committee, which starts before the brunch at the Memorial Tournament. These two groups will communicate to create social media advertising. The City will share messaging for their event.

5. Purple Heart Veteran Signage

Presentation by John Reiner

The City of Dublin is working on updating all of the entryway signs. The design approved does not include recognition of all of the acknowledgements and awards for the City. Mr. Reiner informed the group that the City is looking at alternates to recognize these acknowledgements. The city is certified as a Tree City USA and recently received silver designation as a Bike Friendly Community, in addition to the Purple Heart City. Staff has created signage ideas that encapsulate all of these acknowledgements in one sign at major City entryways. The program is currently in the design phase.

Ms. Goliver presented the new design for monument signs to be located at 6 points around the city, as well as general entryway signs. This will be taken to the Community Development Committee in February.

Questions/Comments

Mr. Kehoe asked if the City would look into adding these accolades to the header or in other ways on the website.

Mr. Reiner responded by noting that the City has been awarded so many accolades between divisions that it may be odd to advertise one over the other.



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Mr. Noble asked that the Veterans Committee be notified of other committee decisions that affect the group to include them in conversations on decisions that may affect them.

6. Veterans Tax Break

Presentation by Mack Parkhill and Buck Bramlish, Franklin County Veterans Service Commission

Mr. Bramlish shared that Dublin can issue a voucher system in some form that would encourage people to come forward and identify themselves as Veterans. It is assumed people will come forward given the incentive. A conversation needs to happen surrounding who will be able to receive this voucher and what its benefits will be defined as. A "Veteran" is defined by Ohio Revised Code Section 5903.01 Definitions, effective September 16, 2014, and was provided to the Committee during this conversation.

Ms. Goliver stated this definition serves as a guideline for how to create a feasible framework to develop an incentive policy. If the goal is to get a comprehensive list of Veterans in Dublin, maybe we can communicate our current email list sign up through a marketing push over Memorial Day, and ask for community response and engagement. There are many events and programs that the committee can also look into as incentivizing engagement with Veterans citywide. It is the recommendation of staff that the committee pursue current city programming.

Questions/Comments

Mr. Noble asked the committee for other ideas.

Mr. Rozanski noted that City staff should utilize non-technology avenues of communication to get word out to all members of the community.

Ms. Goliver clarified that staff advertises events and programs through the Dispatch, local news channels, Dublin Life Magazine, the DCRC, and mailing lists. She stated that city staff struggles with "offline" engagement hurdles regularly and has several additional outlets to make communication accessible.

Mr. Parkhill asked Mr. Bramlish if he has been successful in engaging with Veterans of all ages.

Mr. Bramlish shared that he also struggles to engage with all Veteran age groups, finding that his organization struggles in the same ways the City of Dublin staff does. He also provided alternative definitions of "Veteran" for the committee to read through and discuss. The proposed language is:

"'Veteran' means any person who has completed service in the armed forces, including the national guard of any state, or a reserve component of the armed forces, who has



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been discharged under honorable conditions from the armed forces or who has been transferred to the reserve with evidence of satisfactory service; or, widow or widower of a member of the armed forces of the United States who died on active military duty.”

Mr. Hansley asked what the expected Veteran population of Dublin could be.

Mr. Bramlish estimated 7% of the Dublin population is composed of Veterans.

Mr. Reiner asked if a dishonorable discharge DD 214 or DD 215 applies to this definition.

Mr. Bramlish replied that separating them as not being Veterans requires a significant amount of research

Mr. Noble asked if staff can work with realtors to determine the number of properties sold to Veterans in Dublin.

Mr. Hansley responded that the Committee must first push out a general program to see community response before complicating a program that doesn't exist. He would rather have something for the public to find while the Committee determines what works and what doesn't.

Mr. Parkhill asked if staff can create a Dublin Veteran verification card so that the community has its own special designation through the program?

Mr. Noble asked for the Veterans Committee to motion that definition "Option 3", as provided by the handout from Buck Bramlish, be adopted as the City of Dublin's definition of "Veteran"

Mr. Kehoe motioned to define Veterans as presented. Mr. Parkhill seconded the motion. The Committee approved that unanimously.

Mr. Reiner stated that the City staff should focus on the creation of the proposed Dublin Veteran ID cards. The March meeting will focus on listing Veterans benefits found in the City of Dublin, with a rendering of what the card will look like.

Ms. Goliver shared that she will bring back recommendations for how the card can be used, as well as a design for the card, to the next meeting.

7. Upcoming Military/Veteran Appreciation Events

Presentation by Bonnie Gamary

The Committee was notified that a student group has begun reaching out to Veterans by mail to notify them of Veterans appreciation events. On Friday, January 27, 2023, at 6



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PM at Scioto HS, the student group will be recognizing Veterans at the Scioto Men's Basketball game vs. Canal Winchester. School staff will need clarification of Veterans name. Ms. Goliver will provide the contact information for the names to be sent to. From 6 to 7 PM there will be a "tailgate dinner". On April 27, 2023, at Scioto HS, there will be a Scioto Men's Baseball game that will acknowledge Veterans as well, with the same program being a "tailgate dinner" before the game.

8. Position Retirements and Replacements

Mr. Krumholz will be separating from the Committee in March. The other member's whose terms are expiring will seek reappointment from City Council. The new bylaws enable a service member from any branch to apply. Openings are not branch-specific.

9. Round Table

Mr. Rozanski presented that at Wreaths Across America they identified over 400 Veterans gravesites. Corporate volunteers helped identify Veteran gravesites and pass out wreaths.

Mr. Noble observed that the City may be able to mark these graves on their app.

Ms. Ritzler provided the Committee with the news that Schoedinger will not be sponsoring Hero Hut this year. If any Committee Members have recommendations for who staff can reach out to for sponsorship, please send those to her. She will look into what the sponsorship value is.

Ms. Goliver followed up on a conversation from the last meeting about the cemetery fund. The City has a permanent fund with about \$1.6 million. This consists of revenue from the sale of lots. The funds are strictly restricted. The City can only access the interest generated from this account, which is approximately \$400,000. If the Committee would like, she can work with the cemetery team to explore how they can use those funds to preserve headstones for Veterans.

Mr. Bramlish shared that Franklin County Veterans Service Commission funds headstones for Veterans. He and Ms. Goliver will connect later on this.

Ms. Goliver shared that a link to the Dublin Veterans website is now under the Dublin Organizations section at the bottom of the website. It will be visible on each city webpage.

Mr. Noble made the Committee aware of the next Military Roundtable March of 2023. These occur on the fourth Monday of every month at 1:00 PM at the DCRC, except for the months of May and August,

10. Adjourn



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Respectfully Submitted,
Mitchell Ament, Management Analyst