City of Dublin

VETERANS COMMITTEE

May 18th, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Noble called the May 18th, 2023 meeting of the Dublin Veterans Committee to order at 3:31 pm in person.

2. Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Jeff Noble (Chair), Bonnie Gamary (Vice Chair), Roger Ansel, Sean Clifton, Steven Dickman, Tim Hansley, Mike Kehoe, Mack Parkhill, John Reiner.

Committee Members not Present: Jan Rozanski

City Staff Present: Mason Althouse, Kendel Blake, Lori Gischel, Emily Goliver, Hayley Griggs, Jaime Hoffman, Meghan Murray, Carrie Ritzler.

3. Membership

Ms. Blake reminded committee members on proper procedure for using microphones and introduced new member Mr. Dickman.

- Mr. Dickman introduced himself.
- Mr. Noble announced Mr. Ansel and Mr. Hansley reappointments.
- Ms. Blake explained the chair and vice chair election process.
- Mr. Noble went over the guidelines for boards and commissions and opened the floor to elections.
- Mr. Parkhill nominated Mr. Noble with a second from Mr. Hansley. Mr. Noble called role and the motion to confirm Mr. Noble for chair was passed.
- Mr. Reiner nominated Ms. Gamary for vice chair with a second from Mr. Parkhill, Mr. Noble called role and the motion to confirm Ms. Gamary for vice chair was passed.

4. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Noble proposed a motion to approve the March 16th, 2023, meeting minutes. The motion was unanimously approved.

5. Veterans Benefit Discount Card

Mr. Parkhill outlined the process for creating the veterans discount and shared his thoughts to help find more veterans in the community. He suggested a lottery like system for veterans to win tickets to the Memorial Tournament.

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Ms. Goliver noted that staff would have to investigate if the City was capable of this action.

Mr. Parkhill asked Ms. Goliver if the committee had access to the current list of veterans to implement this lottery.

Mr. Noble commented on a few other ways to help identify veterans in the community.

Mr. Reiner asked how the Memorial Tournament verified that tickets were sold to veterans and asked if they recorded who was coming and going. Suggesting that this was a good way of tracking veterans.

Mr. Noble noted that this list would likely be full of people who are not Dublin residents.

Ms. Gamary explained that tickets are sent out in messages by group/squadron.

Ms. Blake noted that veterans entering the Memorial must show proof of ID at the gate.

Mr. Reiner noted that this is one of the most comprehensive lists available.

Mr. Noble suggested that this is a good idea but should be done after the ceremony or maybe at the picnic lunch.

Mr. Parkhill noted that doing the raffle early could be beneficial to help veterans plan, perhaps around veterans' day.

Ms. Goliver outlined the best practices for this raffle, with committee members agreeing that doing the raffle further in advance could be beneficial.

Ms. Gamary reintroduced the idea of the veteran's discount card to Mr. Parkhill as he was absent from the last meeting.

Mr. Noble commented that he sent out price ranges and Mr. Kehoe noted that Dublin's benefits matched up with most of the current market.

Mr. Noble stressed the importance of the DCRC membership and how good it could be for Dublin veterans. Mr. Kehoe agreed.

Ms. Goliver noted that there hadn't been any changes to the discount rate for the DCRC and changing this rate was outside the purview of the committee. She then explained the current cost study, and suggested discounting things outside the current cost study. Ms. Goliver then pulled up the previous presentation showcasing the proposed discounts for veterans.

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Mr. Reiner suggested that the committee needed to vote on this matter.

Mr. Hansley noted that if the goal was to find more veterans in Dublin, then the discounts should be greater and that they should bring something better to council.

Ms. Goliver suggested that committee members attend a finance committee meeting to best share their feelings regarding the cost study and discount rates.

Mr. Noble went line by line to gauge committee feelings on current discounts, with the suggestion that the DCRC membership be lowered for veterans and adding a Memorial Tournament raffle.

Ms. Goliver clarified the specific wording behind the DCRC discount rate for the recommendation to council.

The committee discussed different ways to go about the rates and what verbiage should be used to introduce the idea to council.

Ms. Blake explained the process and timeline of introducing a recommendation to council and clarified the goal of the committees' recommendations, as well as the costs associated with the veteran's card.

Ms. Goliver clarified the importance of procedure of the motion for introducing this to council.

Mr. Noble motioned to recommend to council that they approve a veteran's card for Dublin Veterans' based on the submission of a DD214, this card would allow them various discounts as proposed by staff. Mr. Gamary seconded, roll was called, and the motion was approved.

6. Gravesites for Memorial Day

Mr. Noble jumped ahead in the agenda to Gravesites for Memorial Day.

Mr. Kehoe highlighted the number of veterans being cremated and how they could be honored at the Dublin Cemetery, especially come Memorial Day.

Mr. Noble suggested ideas regarding honoring the columbarium at the cemetery.

Ms. Blake commented staff could investigate what are the best practices for this.

Mr. Kehoe left.

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7. Grounds of Remembrance Update

Ms. Gamary noted that the POW QR code was not currently working, and the fact that people are often unaware of them as they enter the grounds of remembrance. Highlighting the history of the grounds and suggesting that a placard be placed at the entrance. Ms. Gamary commented that the information for Dublin veterans is often hard to find and that advertising the veteran website could be beneficial.

The committee discussed how young people view veterans.

Ms. Gamary asked Ms. Blake if there was a possibility of adding a QR code at the entrance. Ms. Blake agreed, noting that adding another code was something that the City could implement.

Mr. Dickman suggested adding signage to help direct people to the Grounds of Remembrance.

8. Gravesites for Memorial Day

Mr. Noble noted that May 27th is the day to help decorate the cemetery for Memorial Day with the Dublin American Legion.

9. Military Round Table and dublinveterans.com

Mr. Noble announced that the next Military Round Table was at the DCRC on May 22nd.

10.VA Actions

Ms. Gamary went over action at the VA and the PACT Act. She highlighted local action to help veterans.

The committee discussed the bills impacts and ways to best share information regarding the act, such as including a link on the Dublin Veterans Website.

11.Trainings

Ms. Blake briefly mentioned the online DEI Training assigned to committee members. Ms. Blake also highlighted the upcoming Advisory Committee Member Training and what purpose and process they serve. The goal of the training is to formalize meeting procedures, with training being June 6th at 6pm.

12. Roundtable

Mr. Noble bid Ms. Goliver farewell as she moves to CSAC.

Ms. Ritzler highlighted the updates on the Hero Hut and its sponsors.

Mr. Clifton noted the needs of the Hero Hut this year in terms of signage and sponsorships.

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Mr. Clifton thanked Ms. Goliver for her work on the Purple Heart signage.

Mr. Reiner shared an opportunity to volunteer for a special needs program with Adaptive Sports Connection.

Ms. Blake reminded the committee that the next meeting is July 20th.

Ms. Gischel provided an update and information regarding the Memorial Day festivities.

Mr. Noble highlighted veterans' activities on both Memorial and Independence Day.

Mr. Noble asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. All members approved the motion.

Meeting ended at 4:51 pm

13.Adjourn

Respectfully Submitted,

Kendel Blake, Management Analyst

Chair Jeff Noble