



Veterans Advisory Committee
Thursday, January 18, 2024 – 3:30 p.m.

1. **Call to order/Pledge of Allegiance** – Chair, Jeff Noble
2. **Roll Call** – Staff Liaison, Kendel Blake
3. **Review and approval of November 16, 2023 Minutes** – Chair
Resolution 03-22 Section 2J, 3A
4. **Veteran Appreciation Card Update/External Outreach** – Staff Liaison
Resolution 03-22 Section 2F
5. **St. Patrick's Day Parade** – Chair
Resolution 03-22 Section 2A
6. **Military Round Table** – Chair
Resolution 03-22 Section 2G, I
 - See attached documentation
7. **Veterans Affairs** – Chair/Staff Liaison
Resolution 03-22 Section 2H
 - See attached documentation
8. **New Business**
9. **Roundtable**
10. **Adjourn**



Dublin Veterans Advisory Committee
Thursday, November 16, 2023 Meeting Minutes
3:30-5:00 PM

1. Call to order/Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Noble called the November 16th, 2023 meeting of the Dublin Veterans Committee to order at 3:32 pm in person.

2. Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Jeff Noble (Chair), Mike Kehoe, Sean Clifton, Mack Parkhill, Steven Dickman (Arrived at 4:02), Roger Ansel, John Reiner, Bonnie Gamary, Jan Rozanski, and Tim Hansley

City Staff Present: Kendel Blake and Lori Gischel

3. Review and approval of September 21, 2023 Minutes

Mr. Reiner motioned to approve the September 21st, 2023 Minutes, with a second from Mr. Parkhill, the motion was unanimously approved.

4. Veteran's Week Recap

Mr. Noble recapped the Veteran's Week programming, noting that it was a successful and busy week for himself and Post 800. He thanked Dublin Retirement Village and added that the speaker, Col. Bruce Ware would also be the speaker at the next Military Roundtable.

Ms. Gamary highlighted the Veteran's Story event at Dublin Scioto High School. She noted that there was a good turnout from students and veterans alike.

Mr. Parkhill thanked Ms. Gamary for her work surrounding the Veteran's Day programming at the High School.

Mr. Noble talked about the small packages that were provided by the Purple Star Club at Dublin Scioto High School.

Mr. Kehoe added that he enjoyed the event at the school and thanked the students for their participation.

Guest, Tom Holton remarked on the same event, adding that the students were impressive and maintained eye contact throughout the event. He commended teacher John Witt for his work in the schools.

Mr. Noble spoke about the Dublin Veteran's Ceremony on Friday the 10th. He thanked those who attended and spoke at the event.



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Mr. Noble remarked about Saturday's event at Pat Monahan Park.

5. 2024 Meeting Dates

Ms. Blake introduced the dates for the 2024 Veteran's Committee and asked for any input. Ms. Blake pointed out that the July meeting date is during Council's recess however Mr. Reiner commented that the July date is not an issue for him.

Mr. Noble noted that every other month seemed like a good schedule to keep and motioned to approve the 2024 meeting dates, Mr. Kehoe seconded.

6. Military Round Table

Mr. Noble noted that the next military roundtable is set for November 27th, 1:00-2:00 PM at the Dublin Community Recreation Center. He reminded the Committee that Ret. Col. Bruce Ware would be the speaker.

7. Dublin Coffman High School's Veteran's Support Club

Mr. Noble introduced Emerson Eickholt and Keegan Blevins to talk about the Veteran's Support Club at Coffman High School.

Ms. Eickholt gave an update regarding the club and outlined their first few meetings. She highlighted the clubs application for the Purple Star designation and the work that goes into the application. She also remarked about organizing a military appreciation night at a school basketball game. One final goal she spoke about was the efforts to erect a military student wall that honors students who served in the military.

Mr. Blevins noted that it is unlikely that the Purple Star Club could happen this year due to time constraints but the ground work would be in place for upcoming classes.

Mr. Clifton asked if the student needed any help from the committee members.

Mr. Blevins asked if the members knew of any staff that were veterans or military adjacent and would be willing to help support student efforts.

Mr. Noble suggested that the student ask administration for help in finding staff that would support the clubs.



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Ms. Eickholt noted that they were working with Vice Principals to find staff support but remarked that it was a slow moving process.

Mr. Clifton asked what the requirements are for a liaison.

Ms. Eickholt explained that they need to be a Coffman staff member and go through the required training.

Mr. Blevins noted that the required training was off-putting to staff members.

Mr. Clifton was hopeful that a Dublin City Schools staff would step up to do the training and assist the club.

Ms. Gamary gave a few tips regarding securing help and assistants for the club and highlighted the importance of alumni networks.

Ms. Eickholt asked Ms. Gamary about the time commitment surrounding the Purple Heart training.

Ms. Gamary noted that it was under two-hours and was not excessive.

Ms. Blake asked Ms. Eickholt to share the date of the Military Appreciation Night so she could share it with Dublin Veterans.

8. Dublin Scioto High School's Veteran Initiatives

Mr. Noble introduced Gabe Shaw and Claire Miller from Dublin Scioto's Purple Heart Club.

Mr. Shaw and Ms. Miller introduced themselves and shared a presentation regarding the Purple Heart Club and the schools Purple Heart Designation. They shared some of their sponsorship opportunities, care package initiatives, and other military support programs.

Mr. Shaw asked the committee if there were any questions.

Mr. Kehoe asked if Purple Star Club was started at Dublin Scioto.

Ms. Gamary noted that the school received a designation from the Ohio Department of Education in 2022, staff then looked for opportunities to engage students. From this point, students formed a Purple Heart Club to support Veterans.



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Mr. Dickman arrived at 4:02 PM.

Ms. Blake asked Mr. Shaw and Ms. Miller what military connections they had.

Ms. Miller noted that she had several family members that were veterans and had a desire to give back to the veteran community.

Mr. Shaw also said that he had several veteran family members.

Ms. Gamary highlighted a handout from the students club which outlines future veteran's activities.

9. Veterans Affairs

Ms. Blake went over current federal legislation related to veterans.

10. New Business

Mr. Noble highlighted the Legions yearly fundraiser, which is a viewing event for the Army vs. Navy game. The event takes place at the Westerville Winking Lizard and invited the group to join. As part of the event, Mr. Noble mentioned an auction and listed a few of the items being auctioned off.

Mr. Parkhill thanked staff and students for the handmade cards.

Mr. Clifton talked about The Hero Hut and sponsorships. He asked if there were ongoing efforts to find veteran owned businesses to help sponsor the Hero Hut.

Ms. Blake noted that she reached out to the Dublin Chamber of Commerce to see if there was a current list of veteran owned businesses, which there is not.

Mr. Noble said that this would be a good topic for the next meeting and asked everyone to think of suggestions on how to approach businesses.

Mr. Kehoe noted that the Columbus Chamber of Commerce and Columbus Business First may also have comprehensive lists of veteran owned businesses.

Mr. Clifton highlighted that registration is not compulsory so the lists may not be comprehensive but it is worth looking for. He asked if he could contact the Chamber.

Ms. Blake noted that the action should come directly from the committee and said that she would reach out to a few others to find a list of veteran owned businesses.



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Ms. Blake also highlighted that in the next committee meeting there would be a more in depth conversation with the Community Events team to help facilitate a sponsorship and business partnerships.

Mr. Kehoe mentioned that the CEO of the Columbus Chamber is a Dublin resident and would share his information with staff.

Ms. Blake highlighted her experience at the Dublin Retirement Village and also thanked Mr. Reiner for his help as a spokesman at the Dublin Veteran's Celebration. She mentioned that there were eight new sign ups at the event, bringing the total up to 40. She asked for help networking with new veterans within the community as well.

Ms. Blake thanked Ms. Gamary and Mr. Dickman for their help with the promotional video.

Mr. Noble asked for the link for the podcast and video, noting that it was on the City's website, asking if it could be added to the veteran's website.

Ms. Blake shared that there were 46 columbarium niches available and explained that Parks and Recreation staff would monitor spaces and if the columbarium was reaching capacity, a new project could be proposed as a CIP project.

Ms. Blake is working with Legislative Services staff to help improve audio quality for those who are hearing impaired.

Ms. Blake clarified term limit rules, noting that everyone is in their first term. She listed those whose first term is almost over, and explained the process for reappointment.

Mr. Rosanski asked Ms. Blake if there was a way to denote a veteran who is interred at the columbarium.

Ms. Blake explained the current options and number of veterans who chose to have a marker on their placard.

Mr. Noble explained his efforts at the Veteran's Commission and the different options for gravestone or niche markers, and the process for securing one.



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Ms. Gischel thanked Mr. Noble and Mr. Reiner for their help with the Veteran's Celebration. She highlighted Wreaths Across America, which is occurring on December 16th at 10:30 AM at the Dublin Cemetery. Finally, she addressed suggestions regarding dublinveterans.com and noted that the reformatting of the resources page was finished and information regarding the Hero Hut would be added shortly.

Mr. Noble spoke about a promotional video that would also be added to the website.

Mr. Noble motioned to adjourn.

Mr. Reiner seconded.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:28 PM.

11. Adjourn

Respectfully Submitted,

Kendel Blake, Management Analyst

Jeff Noble, Chair

Military Round Table 2024

March 25th: Gregory Edmonds, Tuskegee Airmen

April 22nd: Dave Yost, Ohio Attorney General

May 20th: Amber Hudson Clark, US Navy, and Founder of MASH Pantry

June 24th: Van Young, “A pictorial visit to the Gettysburg Battlefield”

July 22nd: TBD

August 19th: Dick Cragg, USN, “The Big E” USS Enterprise (the first nuclear powered carrier in the world)

September 23rd: Donna Burtch, One Navy Man's Korean War Experiences (my father's) taken from my book, *In the Key of Sea: The Life and Times of William A. Burtch*

October 28th: TBD

November 25th: Van Young, “The Battle of Franklin”

Level of Government	Bill #	Bill	Legislator(s)	Status
Federal	HR 336	"Korean American VALOR Act" This bill expands eligibility for specified Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits (e.g., medical and dental care) to certain veterans of the armed forces of South Korea who served in Vietnam between January 9, 1962, and May 7, 1975, or during a time period determined by the VA. The bill authorizes the VA to furnish such benefits under an existing law, which requires (1) a request by South Korea, and (2) a reciprocity agreement that provides for reimbursement of expenses incurred by the VA for the provision of care.	Takano M.	11/13/23 Became Public Law
	HR 1226	"Wounded Warrior Access Act" This bill requires the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to establish and maintain a secure online tool or website to enable a claimant or their representative to make records requests related to VA claims and benefits. Requests for records must specify in which format the copy is desired. The VA must notify a requester within 10 days that their request has been received and must fulfill the request within 120 days.	Aguilar P.	11/13/23 Became Public Law
	HR 3848	"Housing our Military Veterans Effectively Act of 2023 or the HOME Act of 2023" This bill addresses the funding and administration of certain Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) programs related to homeless veterans. Specifically, the bill increases the maximum rate of per diem payments provided by the VA to entities (i.e., grant recipients or authorized entities) that furnish services and transitional housing to homeless veterans. The bill also authorizes the VA to provide a maximum of 200% of the otherwise applicable maximum rate to a certain number of grant recipients and authorized entities in each fiscal year from FY2024 through FY2026. Under the bill, the VA may not provide more than 12,000 per diem payments in a fiscal year.	Chavez-DeRemar L.	12/06/23 Passed in the House
	HR 3581	"Caregiver Outreach and Program Enhancement Act or the COPE Act" This bill addresses various Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) issues, including the family caregiver program and VA facility security. Specifically, the bill authorizes the VA to award grants to implement, coordinate, improve, or enhance mental health counseling, treatment, or support for family caregivers of veterans participating in the family caregiver program. The bill also authorizes the VA to make contributions to local authorities to mitigate the risk of flooding on local property adjacent to VA medical facilities. Additionally, the Government Accountability Office must report on the provision of mental health support to caregivers of veterans.	Kiggans, J.	12/05/23 Passed in the House

*Up-to-date as of January 11, 2024