



DUBLIN VETERANS COMMITTEE

July 20th, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Noble called the July 20th, 2023 meeting of the Dublin Veterans Committee to order at 3:31 pm in person.

2. Roll Call

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

Committee Members not Present: Jan Rozanski, Roger Ansel, Bonnie Garmy

City Staff Present: Kendel Blake, Carrie Ritzler, Mason Althouse

3. Review and Approval of May 18, 2023 Minutes

Mr. Noble proposed a motion to approve the May 18th, 2023 Minutes, with a second from Mr. Reiner, the motion was unanimously approved.

4. Committee Forms/Training Recap

Ms. Blake recapped the training on June 6th and offered an opportunity to provide feedback to legislative services. Ms. Blake also went over the code of conduct and reminded Mr. Kehoe and Mr. Parkhill they still needed to sign it.

Ms. Blake then discussed future rules and regulations for the committee and made sure the draft rules and regulations were sufficient for this committee. This discussion included membership, officer elections, attendance, resignation, staff liaison, meetings, quorum, rules of order, publicly available agendas, general procedures, voting procedures and reporting guidelines. She then opened the floor for discussion.

Hearing none, Mr. Noble motioned to approve the rules, Mr. Parkhill was the second, and the motion was approved.

5. Independence Day Recap

Mr. Noble remarked about the Independence Day celebration and the number of participating veterans. He noted that there were a number of issues such as street vendor trinkets and balloons in front of the color guard.

Mr. Clifton agreed that shifting the location of the balloon would be a nice thing.

Mr. Noble noted that he would work with staff to have the order changed in future parades.

6. Council Recommendations Recap

Mr. Noble spoke about his presentation to Council and its overall success.



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Ms. Blake noted that the recommendations of a new senior veteran membership rate at the Dublin Community Recreation Center and the veteran appreciation card were well received and were passed unanimously. She thanked Mr. Noble and Mr. Dickman for testing the form and providing feedback. Ms. Blake explained the application process and the benefits provided.

Ms. Blake shared her discussions with the Communications and Public Information (CPI) team and the best way to roll out the cards, noting that August 15th would be the date the card would be publicized on social media platforms. She will speak at the next military roundtable on July 24th, table at the Hero Hut (8/8-8/6), and legion meeting (8/8) regarding the appreciation card.

Mr. Reiner asked the committee for other suggestions on how to spread the word.

Mr. Clifton noted that he and Mr. Noble would be at the Hero Hut all weekend to help spread the word. He also asked if members of the committee could ask private businesses if they would provide discounts for card members.

Mr. Noble advised that waiting for the card to get off the ground and before going to private businesses would be a good idea. Mr. Noble also noted that Veterans Day breakfast and lunch at La Chatelaine would be a good networking event to promote the card.

Mr. Kehoe asked if staff could add the card to the Thursday email list.

Ms. Blake remarked that she could ask the CPI team.

Mr. Dickman said committee members could use their personal social media platform such as twitter as a vector to spread the word.

Mr. Reiner went over the success of the card within the council meeting.

Mr. Noble outlined the benefits of the program and his excitement about future cardholders.

7. Veterans Affairs

Ms. Blake directed members to look towards the back of their packet for a spreadsheet of legislation at the state and federal level related to veteran's affairs. She asked if any members were to be a witness on any state legislation to let staff now and reminded members that it is a duty of the veterans committee to be aware of veteran affairs at the state and federal level.

Mr. Noble remarked about the Franklin County Veterans Commission.



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Mr. Reiner also noted that the Franklin County Auditor provides a nice veterans card.

8. Dublin Irish Festival and Hero Hut

Mr. Clifton said that generally the Hero Hut is on track for the Irish Festival and gave a brief update on the progress and its supporters. He also noted his schedule for the weekend of the festival

Ms. Ritzler said that there are eight total organizations signed up, with three of them being new. Overall the area should be expanded and enhanced from last year.

Mr. Clifton also shared some of the decoration that would enhance the space this year. He also noted that this is the perfect venue for messaging the Veteran Appreciation Card.

Mr. Reiner asked if there was a singular sponsor for the Hero Hut.

Ms. Ritzler noted there is not, and if there was one it would be too late to get their name in all the print materials.

Mr. Noble remarked that next year there should be a bigger focus on finding a sponsor for this and that the Committee would like to assist the events team in acquiring the sponsor. He also talked about MASH Pantry and what a great organization they have.

Mr. Clifton noted some lessons learned from last year and the effort that should be put on targeted sponsorship opportunities.

Mr. Reiner highlighted a person at Riverside Hospital who would be a good connection.

Ms. Ritzler noted that staff does have a designated sponsorship employee and that the cost of the sponsorship is \$10,000.

Mr. Clifton said that ideally the pitch should come from the committee or its members.

Mr. Noble asked some of the high school guests if they attended the Irish Festival, to which they raised their hands that they had.

9. Military Round Table and dublinveterans.com

Mr. Noble highlighted the sign-up form is on dublinveterans.com and noted the time of the roundtable next week and invited all members. He highlighted a historian that would be the other topic at that meeting.

Mr. Kehoe asked if there was a way to get more visibility for the roundtable on the dublinveterans.com website and suggested some other locations.



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Mr. Clifton noted that someone could record the upcoming roundtable meeting.

Ms. Blake said that she would talk to the City's CPI team to help reorganize the website, and suggested that a staff member from CPI comes to the next meeting.

Mr. Kehoe was hopeful that staff could be more up to date on uploading videos on the website.

Mr. Parkhill explained the history of Military Round Table.

10. New Business

Topic – Columbarium

Mr. Noble asked about the cemetery and the columbarium.

Ms. Blake explained that there is a way to engrave headstones and columbarium niches.

Mr. Kehoe was excited to hear that they are thinking about this already but noted that it seemed like there wasn't a protocol currently.

Ms. Blake explained that engravings were the choice of the family and there was a wide variety of options.

Mr. Noble asked to see the options going forward and asked if parks could come to a committee meeting.

Ms. Blake explained that a contractor is in charge of the engraving and the City's Parks staff doesn't play a role in the engraving process.

Mr. Kehoe noted that the variety is very dramatic and he wondered what all the options truly were.

Topic – Emerson Eikholt

Buckeye Boys State and Buckeye Girls State members were introduced and explained their rolls during their time at camp.

Emerson Eikholt then spoke about a project that she was working on to create a student led committee at Coffman that helps support veterans in the community. She wants to find ways for students to volunteer and help veterans. She also noted her interest in applying for Coffman to become a purple star school. She asked for feedback on her ideas before she went to the school faculty.

Mr. Clifton noted that Emerson is his niece and he has a strong interest in creating this program and that it could greatly benefit the community and committee. He offered himself to be the liaison for the committee.



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Mr. Dickman agreed and noted his support for this cause.

Mr. Noble noted that the students from Scioto who helped Scioto achieve the Purple Star School were sitting behind Ms. Eikholt.

Mr. Reiner remarked on how confident he was with the future of our country after meeting these students.

Roundtable:

Mr. Parkhill talked about his time at Boys State.

Mr. Dickman thanked Ms. Blake for her help with the card.

Mr. Hansley thanked staff and Mr. Reiner for the expedient process of veteran's cards.

Mr. Kehoe thanked Ms. Blake and the students.

Mr. Reiner offered his help to Mr. Clifton in the Hero Hut and thanked staff for all of their help.

Mr. Noble commented on Ms. Blake's hard work.

Ms. Blake addressed the students and shared how supportive staff is of their efforts. She noted that the relationship between their clubs and the Committee is one everyone would like to keep strong.

Mr. Parkhill motioned to adjourn.

Mr. Reiner seconded.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:24 PM

11. Adjourn



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Respectfully Submitted,

Kendel Blake, Management Analyst

Jeff Noble, Chair