



DUBLIN VETERANS COMMITTEE

JULY 21, 2022 MEETING MINUTES

3:30 - 5:00 PM

1. Call to Order

Chair Jeff Noble called the July 21st, 2022 meeting of the Veteran's Committee to Order at 3:30 pm on July 21st, 2022, in person.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Jeff Noble (Chair), Bonnie Gamary (Vice-Chair), John Reiner, Roger Ansel, Time Hansley, Charles Krumholtz, Mach Parkhill

Committee Members Absent: Sean Clifton, Jan Rozanski, Mike Kehoe

City Staff Present: Kirby Dearth, Carrie Ritzler, Emily Goliver, Leah Dotson

4. Review of Minutes

Jeff Noble proposed a motion to approve the May 26th, 2022 meeting minutes. The motion was unanimously approved.

5. Veterans Suicide

Dr. Chrisanne Gordon shared a presentation about the Resurrecting Lives Foundation (RLF). Her presentation consisted of statistics outlining the rate of veteran suicide across U.S. military bases and the country. Dr. Gordon stressed that RLF is attempting to challenge the stigma surrounding veterans' mental health and offers resources and extra circulars for veterans to partake in. Dr. Gordon also stressed the significance brain development plays in this phenomena.

Questions/Comments

John Reiner asked how the Committee can best engage with veteran community members, specifically those of the younger generation.

Jeff Noble recommends that visitors of the Hero Hut at the Dublin Irish Festival can sign a list, helping the committee identify community members that have served. Suggests facilitating activities for those veterans that may be effected by mental health struggles.

6. Remembrance Project

Josh Matthews discussed his role as an adjunct professor at Capital University. He shows interest in the Remembrance Project due to the community engagement class he teaches at the university. Josh Matthews stressed that talking to this committee will circulate stories and highlight the significance of public engagement.

Questions/Comments

Kirby Dearth explained the concept of the Remembrance Project and the progress made so far. Leadership Dublin sets up a team to do research on passed veterans located in



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cemeteries in the area. This serves as an opportunity for Dubliners to know about veterans who have served. To date, the project has received 40+ stories, but researchers always accept help to increase this number.

Josh Matthews offers to teach a class to veterans such as ones mentioned in Dr. Gordon's presentation, as an additional resource to recover similar stories.

Bonnie Gamary stresses the connection to local veterans many of the Dublin City Schools have and suggests this could be another way to identify Dublin-area veterans.

Members of the Committee point out the impact the reduced membership to the Dublin Recreation Center, proposed tax benefits, and proposed free Irish Festival tickets could have on identifying local veterans.

7. Library QR Code

Jeff Noble laid out the plan for reinstating the QR code in front of the library for the Grounds of Remembrance. He explained that the QR has only been displayed for a couple days that are historically significant to veterans. Proposes making a permanent fixture in the library.

Questions/Comments

Kirby Dearth explained that he pulled engagement data from the sign and explained that the QR code was not correctly printed so specific data could not be pulled out from the last year. He discussed proposing a permanent sign to the Dublin branch of the Columbus Metropolitan Library for a calendar year to see how much engagement the sign gets. Kirby Dearth is currently working with the City's Communications and Public Information team on this. He mentioned the potentially of Dana McDaniel meeting with the library on this topic.

8. Hero Hut

Jeff Noble highlighted the organization Hero Hut and the significance of their tent at the Dublin Irish Festival. Organizations such as the Ohio Department of Veterans Services, Resurrecting Lives Foundation, the American Legion, the Wounded Warrior project, and more will have materials and handouts at this event. Jeff Noble stresses the need for volunteers on Friday night to monitor the tent and greet veterans.

Questions/Comments

Carrie Ritzler added that all volunteers will get a parking pass and festival credentials.

9. Military Roundtable Recording

Jeff Noble explained the purpose of the Military Roundtable that the Committee usually works with the American Legion to produce. As the person that currently records the event



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will not be able to attend, the City was suggested to take over its recording and post it to the website. Jeff Noble stressed that the City already has the necessary facilities to produce and record this event.

Jeff Noble proposed a motion to table this topic to a later date. The motion was unanimously approved.

10. Independence Day Parade

Jeff Noble mentioned the significant turnout of community members and veterans at the Independence Day Parade. Stresses the effectiveness of encouraging veterans to participate in these events.

11. Other/New Business

Kirby Dearth announced his transition from the Office of the City Manager to the City's Department of Economic Development. With this transition, Kirby will no longer serve as the Committee's liaison to the Office of the City Manager. Dana McDaniel will work projects for this committee in the near future until a new Management Analyst is hired.

Jeff Noble thanked guests for their presentations and presence at the committee meeting.

Jeff Noble went over the current schedule for the Dublin Irish Festival.

12. Adjourn

NEXT MEETING: September 15th from 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Leah Dotson, City Management Intern