

## Carroll County Veterans Advisory Council Meeting

Meeting Date: April 18, 2023

Start Time: 2:00 pm

Location: American Legion Post 31 (2 Sycamore Street, Westminster, MD)

Chairperson: Bill Nash

Vice-Chair: Steve Whisler

Topic	Discussion
<b>Mission Statement</b>	To evaluate, develop and promote new and existing programs and services for Veterans and their families within Carroll County.
<b>Vision Statement</b>	That Carroll County offers our Veterans quality services and programs to ensure the enrichment and enhancements of life for our men and women and their families.
<b>Attendance (Appointed VAC Members are in bold)</b>	<b>Larry Burbank, Marc Fisher, Bill Murphy, Bill Nash, Elaine May Stem</b> , Bob Eney, Francine Hahn, Nan Mann, Kristen Maszarose, Celene Steckel, Gina Valentine, Tony Roman, Stacey Nash, Victoria Parks
<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>Chair's Comments</u> – Bill Nash opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.</li> <li>2. <u>Attendee Introductions and Announcements</u>- Attendees all provided introductions</li> <li>3. <u>Pledge of Allegiance</u> was led by Bill Nash.</li> <li>4. <u>Commissioner's Report</u> –               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <u>Commissioner Gordon &amp; Commissioner Kiler</u>: No reports provided</li> <li>b. <u>Public Comment</u> – No public comments</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
<b>Old Business</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>Approval of Minutes</u> – Forum not reached; March minutes not approved.</li> <li>2. <u>Monthly Program Reports</u>:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <u>Veteran's Program Coordinators' Report for March 2023</u>: (Richard Pollard)                   <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. 15 Claims submitted</li> <li>ii. 14 New Representations</li> <li>iii. 57 office/2 home visits</li> <li>iv. 15 phone appointments</li> </ol> </li> <li>b. <u>Veteran's Shuttle Report</u> – (Stacie Nash) March 2023:                   <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. 1 Veterans were served with 46 total trips-                       <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Baltimore/ 19 Veterans/ 32 trips -</li> <li>2. Ellicot City / 1 Veteran/ 1 Trip</li> </ol> </li> </ol> </li> </ol> </li> </ol>

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Fort Detrick/ 5 Veterans/ 5 trips</li> <li>4. Walter Reed/ 1 veteran/ 4 trips</li> <li>5. Martinsburg / 8 Veterans/ 14 Trips</li> <li>6. Loch Raven/ 5 Veteran/ 6 Trips</li> <li>7. Gwen Oak/1 Veteran/1 trip</li> <li>8. Total cost of \$5,655.28</li> </ol> <p>c. <u>Employment Initiatives for Veterans Update</u> – No Update</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. <u>Update on Veteran Direct Home and Community Based Services Program Grant</u> (Veteran Service Staff) – No Updates</li> <li>4. <u>Update on Veteran Services Program Grant</u> (Veterans Service Staff) – One Veteran who was pending housing has received employment and housing found. Another who was housed in shelter has moved into housing with family.</li> </ol>
<p><b>New Business</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>Veterans Celebration of Carroll County:</u> Veterans Celebration on Sunday May 7<sup>th</sup>, rain, or shine. Helicopter scheduled to land about 11:00am weather pending. Six String Soldiers, Reagan Years, Military equipment, cannon, and VSO resources coming to the event. Family activities available as well.</li> <li>2. <u>Veterans docket Presentation with Judge Brian DeLeonardo and Stat’s Attorney Haven Shoemaker:</u> Jurisdiction size of Carroll County and needs call for Veterans Court. Veterans docket created and put into motion by using existing resources and partnerships with those in the county. Veterans Docket put before the Commissioners to analyze budget. Without the counties assistance the movement will need to be resubmitted as a court proposal, there is a large push to help Carroll County Veterans and their unique needs. There have been budgetary challenges to get Veterans Docket initiated. Celene Steckel and Gina Valentine have been resourceful to plan conceptually Frederick County’s Veterans Court is in the works of being reinstated and looking for partnerships. Communications have been had to interact &amp; participate with other Veteran Courts.</li> </ol>

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<b>Announcements</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Gina Valentine-John Veney has resigned, his position is open with the State.</li><li>2. Doc Dockery- Increase in number of Vietnam Veterans that have requested assistance. There has been an issue with communications across the board and what resources work best. "Self help is the best help" Do research to know what answers are needed.</li></ol>
<b>Next Meeting Date</b>	<b>Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 2pm at the American Legion Post #31, 2 Sycamore Street, Westminster.</b>