

Doylestown Township Veterans Affairs Committee
Meeting Minutes
July 28, 2022.

Mr. Susessength opened the meeting at 7:00pm.

In attendance: Chris Suessenguth, Katherin Wirth-Torrente, Bill Navarre, Stephanie Mason, Township Manager; Stacy Crandell, Assistant Township Manager, Ryan Kelley-Intern and Macklin Wagner (Congressman Fitzpatrick's Office).

Minutes Approval:

Minutes from the June 24, 2022, VAC meeting was reviewed and on motion by Mr. Suessenguth and seconded by Mr. Navarre the minutes were approved.

Discussion:

Mr. Navarre updated the committee on the Triangle Park clean up project which was held on July 26, 2022. The project was completed and was a success. Letters were distributed, at the event, which formally thanked the volunteers which assisted from the Youth Detention Center and the township workers and family friend of Mrs. Wirth-Torrente were extended a thank you on behalf of the township.

Mr. Suessenguth introduced Mr. Macklin Wagner, representative from Congressman Fitzpatrick's office in Newtown, PA. Mr. Wagner shared his insight pertaining to the services that the Congressman's office provides, on an ongoing basis, to military veterans, active service soldiers and their families. Mr. Wagner stated that the committee would be provided with printed information packets, brochures, and available resources. Mr. Macklin stated that the function of his job is to provide military and veteran advocacy and serves a similar role, with the Congressman's office, that VAC is hoping to be involved in as the committee develops.

Mr. Wagner also discussed the availability issues which the Congressman's office will have, pertaining to sending representatives to upcoming Veteran's Day celebrations and programs scheduled for this year. If VAC submits a request in the next few weeks to the Congressman's office, he was confident that the office would be represented. Mr. Suessenguth made a comment that this would be taken care of.

Mr. Suessenguth introduced additional work that could be done at Triangle Park to improve the grounds for the upcoming Veterans Day program which will be planned. A planting project is being planned for the park.

Mr. Suessenguth and Ms. Mason addressed further discussion for the possibility of the Township in preparing future media segments, introducing VAC to the community, which would involve website development and possible information links to be added to the website.

Mrs. Wirth-Torrente commented on status of the Legacy Program and suggested that the website links should be established in the very near future. The Legacy Program and the future Flag Project, previously introduced by Mrs. Wirth-Torrente, will be included in future discussions of the Committee after the Veterans Day program.

Mr. Macklin will be working on sources for website links and confirm links that are already available and in place and get back to Mr. Suessenguth in the near future.

Ms. Mason confirmed that a \$500 budget was approved by the Township Supervisors for VAC to have available. The committee will investigate the purchase of shirts for committee members and a table banner will be made for future VAC commitments at local events in the community.

Mr. Suessenguth stated dates for future concerts which will have the information table available.

Mr. Suessenguth opened discussion on the development of the "Infomercial" that VAC will establish, and Ms. Mason agreed to get the program underway and coordinate the township media sources, that has been used in the past, with VAC and target inception of the program for the fall.

Mrs. Wirth-Torrente introduced further discussion on the "Memorial Flag" pole project. Ms. Crandell stated that research determined that, at the present time, there are 6 poles at Triangle Park and 6 poles on Easton Road which would provide 24 potential sites for the "memorial flags". It was suggested that VAC focus on the Veterans Day program and target for Memorial Day. Topics which are to be discussed at future meetings include flags, memorial bricks and benches and development of brochure for interested parties.

Mrs. Wirth-Torrente suggested a possible workday for additional clean-up and flower planting at Triangle Park, in preparation for a Veterans Day program of October 20, 2022. Mr. Navarre will contact the Young Detention Center for volunteer invitation for the event.

It was the consensus of VAC to meet on September 29, 2022, at 7 pm and further discuss some of the ideas that VAC want to accomplish.

Adjournment:

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:150PM on motion of Mr. Suessenguth, seconded by Mr. Navarre. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

William C. Navarre, Jr.
VAC Secretary.

