

**Veterans Affairs Committee Meeting**  
**Minutes January 26, 2023**

In attendance: Chris Suessenguth, Katherin Wirth-Torrente, Bill Navarre, Stacy Crandell, Assistant Township Manager, Megan McCuen, Nick Jasionis.

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

Reorganization: Chairman: Chris Suessenguth  
Vice Chairperson: Katherin Wirth-Torrente  
Secretary: William Navarre

New committee members were introduced by Mr. Chris Suessenguth. New committee members include Ms. Megan McCuen and Mr. Nick Jasionis.

Discussion:

Minutes from the September 15, 2022, VAC meeting was reviewed and motion to approve was asked for by Mr. Suessenguth and seconded by Mr. Nick Jasionis.

Old Business:

Recap of 2022 Events was reviewed by Mr. Suessenguth and discussion was had by the committee. Reviewed items included:

1. Collection of residents names within the township which were collected at the Summer Concert events. The concert events appearance by the committee was for the purpose of providing information to the public.
2. Triangle Park Planting events were reviewed and plans were made for the continuation of the events in 2023. Overall, the consensus of the committee was the two planting events were both a success.
3. Committee discussed the continued interest in establishing a website on the Doylestown Township web page to provide exposure for the committee and introduce members, purpose, and focus points. The YMCA program, which is available to the veteran community and under the direction and leadership of Ms. Megan McCuen, was reviewed and will also be made accessible to the veteran community on the website when completed.
4. Veterans Day Ceremony which was held in the Township building location on November 11, 2022 was discussed and considered a complete success and will be replanned for 2023.

New Business:

Mr. Suessenguth opened discussion on 2023 Goals/Projects and the VAC website.

The Veterans Affairs Committee Website development will continue to be worked on and Mr. Navarre will work with Ms. Crandell and provide veterans community organization links which can be included on the site.

The "Flag Pole Banner" project was discussed by the committee and consideration of the project was placed on hold at the present time. The project was tabled at this time due to the Central Park construction project, of a new community center building and park improvements, which will begin in

the spring of 2023. The construction project is expected to continue throughout the summer and fall months and most events will be postponed for 2023.

Mr. Suessenguth introduced this year's "Triangle Park" Spring Cleanup and Planting project. The tentative dates were scheduled for May 17 or May 18, 2023. Mrs. Wirth-Torrente volunteered to contact the garden centers that she worked with last year for the plantings. She will also contact the Bucks County Youth Center for their assistance, which was certainly appreciated last year.

Mr. Suessenguth opened discussion regarding the Infomercial to be developed this year with the assistance of the township "Telecommunication Advisory Board". The theme for the infomercial will be based on providing information on the community on "Who, What and When" the VAC is and purpose. Mrs. Wirth-Torrente volunteered to take on the responsibility of working with the TAB.

Mr. Suessenguth suggested that the committee consider participation in this year's Memorial Day parade and work on the inclusion of a "float" in the parade. The "float" which would promote VAC, "Blue Star and Gold Star" families and include invited veterans to participate and ride the float. Discussion was had and it was decided that this not be pursued this year.

Ms. Crandell stated that this year's Summer Concert series will not include vendor tables due to the park construction to begin May, 2023. Events will be limited this year. However, it was suggested that we do have a flag raising ceremony this year, similar to last year's event. Mr. Suessenguth will contact local youth organizations, including the "Civil Air Patrol" and the "Spartan Young Marines" to appear at the ceremony. The committee members will make suggestions for a singer to appear to open the ceremony by the singing of National Anthem.

Mr. Suessenguth opened discussion regarding possible veteran community projects that VAC could continue to be involved with for exposure and service to local events. The "Travis Manion Foundation Hero's Run" event, which is held in October would be one of the events. Mr. Navarre will volunteer again with Mr. Suessenguth.

Mr. Wirth-Torrente introduced the possibility of participating in the "Wreaths Across America" ceremony which is held this year. The date and location will be decided. It was recommended that if we register for the event with the coordinating sponsor that the wreaths would be provided.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 23, 2023 at 7pm. 2023 Meeting dates will be 3/23/23, 5/25/23, 7/27/23, 9/28/23 and 11/16/2023: Thursdays at 7:00 pm.

Adjournment:

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM on motion of Mr. Suessenguth, seconded by Mr. Jasionis. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

William C. Navarre, Jr.

VAC Secretary.