

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY
VETERANS' RECOGNITION SUBCOMMITTEE**

Pursuant to Section 19.84, Wis. Stats., a regular meeting of the **Brown County Veterans' Recognition Subcommittee** was held on Tuesday, June 19, 2012 at 5:00 p.m., in Room 201 of the Northern Building, 305 E. Walnut Street, Green Bay, Wisconsin.

PRESENT: Delores Pierce, Duane Pierce, Rosemary Desisles, Jerry Polus, Jim Haskins, Donald Bettine, John Walschinski, Joe Witkowski, John Maino, Ron Van Dyke, Ed Koslowski, Bernie Erickson, Becky Murkley

EXCUSED: Sherry Steenbock, Troy Ness

**Running Total of Veterans' Certificates: 1251

1. **Call Meeting to Order.**

The meeting was called to order by Jerry Polus at 5:03 p.m.

2. **Invocation by Jim Haskins.**

3. **Approve/Modify Agenda.**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY JIM HASKINS, SECONDED BY ROSEMARY DESISLES TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. VOTE TAKEN. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. **Approve/Modify Minutes of May 15, 2012.**

Duane Pierce made a correction to his report in Number 7 of the minutes. The Memorial Day Ceremony that he referenced was done by the VVA, not the DVA.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DUANE PIERCE, SECONDED BY JOHN WALSCHINSKI TO APPROVE AS AMENDED. VOTE TAKEN. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. **Discussion regarding Military Appreciation Day at Brown County Fair – Ron Van Dyke and Ed Koslowski.**

Jerry Polus introduced Ron Van Dyke, administrator/treasurer of the Brown County Fair to the group. Van Dyke introduced Becky Murkley, assistant administrator/manager of the Fair to the group.

Polus stated that this was a critical meeting and he wished to get the details finalized for the Fair which is less than two months away. Polus continued that he wants to have the poster design and tickets ready by Friday, June 22, 2012. He received a photo of the Mid-America Band and has included the photo on the posters. Once the poster is approved he will have them printed and ready for mailing and distribution. Posters and tickets will be mailed out to all veterans' organizations and other locations. Van Dyke requested several posters to display at a few different locations they will be at promoting the Fair such as the farmer's market and Fire Over The Fox. Van Dyke will also get some Fair brochures to Polus.

Van Dyke continued that they are still figuring out where the tent will be located, but he will try and keep it as close to the ceremony location as possible. Van Dyke also wanted to know what the status was of having military vehicles on display and Desisles said she is working on that and should know by the end of the month the number and sizes of vehicles that would be available. Duane Pierce also stated that the Vets Center wanted to bring their mobile unit.

Polus would like to know the number of organizations that intend to set up a booth in the tent by August 1. Ed Koslowski of the NE Wisconsin Veterans Meet and Group felt that he would know the number of organizations that will attend by that time and he will let

Polus know. Koslowski provided Polus with a list of the contacts of different organizations he sent mailings to asking for participation. He is still looking for a contact for the 432nd and the Naval Reserve and Maino provided contact information.

Polus also mentioned that the veteran's organizations who attend may wish to display their respective flags and Koslowski stated his only concern would be that the American flag is the tallest. Koslowski will communicate back what organizations will attend and the number of tables needed in the tent and Polus will communicate back to Koslowski as to who may attend from the State and/or Federal VA.

Koslowski stated that the tent will be occupied from noon until 8:00 p.m. and said it will be a "one stop shop" where a veteran can come in and be pointed in the right direction for any problems or issues they have. Vets would also be able to get information on joining any veteran's groups. Van Dyke stated the Fair will provide cookies and lemonade.

Maino stated that he will promote this event on the radio and Haskins stated that he will make the television stations aware of this as well as having them add the event to their community calendars. He will also encourage the stations to show up on the day of the event.

A discussion was held regarding the agenda for the evening and it was decided that the program will begin at 6:15 with a welcome by County Executive Troy Streckenbach and welcoming remarks by Bernie Erickson, followed by the distribution of door prizes. Rolling Thunder's table ceremony will follow the door prizes and the mounted color guard will bring in the colors and do the National Anthem immediately before the band begins at 7:00 p.m. Erickson felt it was important that the donors of the door prizes be acknowledged during the presentation of the prizes. Maino will act as the master of ceremonies for the evening.

Polus stated that all tickets will include parking. He also stated that he will find out from the band if they need a place to change prior to their performance and Van Dyke indicated he could find a place for this if necessary.

The Subcommittee reviewed the poster samples and decided to go with a blue design. Polus will have the posters and tickets printed and ready for distribution on June 25, 2012.

6. Report from CVSO Jerry Polus and Discussion Regarding Company Store and Need to Reorder With Possible Action.

Polus indicated he had ordered 36 mugs and they look good and he got a good price on them. He continued that the tee shirt provider is no longer in business so he has asked for an estimate from the company they previously used. He received an estimate and will be placing an order for 36 tee shirts. A discussion was held regarding increasing the size of the logos on the back of the tee shirt and it was decided to leave them the size they currently are. The color of the tee shirts was also discussed and it was decided to go with white tee shirts instead of gray.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY JIM HASKINS, SECONDED BY DUANE PIERCE TO ORDER 36 TEE SHIRTS. VOTE TAKEN. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Polus also stated that he would like to add water bottles to the store. It was suggested that these bottles be white or clear and a minimum order of 100 – 150 would be needed at a cost of about \$1.50 each.

MOTION MADE BY JIM HASKINS, SECONDED BY DELORES PIERCE TO ORDER WATER BOTTLES. VOTE TAKEN. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Polus continued his report by stating they will be having a key meeting with Veterans Center staff regarding Veterans Courts. Vets Court is moving along very nicely and continues to be held on Friday afternoons.

Polus also commented on an article that appeared in the Green Bay Press Gazette regarding the Veterans Recognition Subcommittee. He reported that his office had received about 20 calls for certificates following publication of the article.

7. Report from Committee Members Present (Bettine, Desisles, Haskins, Maino, Ness, Pierce, Steenbock, Walschinski & Witkowski).

-Bernie Erickson stated he had received a suggestion to add a link for recognition certificates on the County website and perhaps Facebook and Twitter as well. Polus will work with the new IS director on this.

-Rosemary Desisles reported that she had been asked to be on the Council for the Navy League and she will provide further reports on this in the future. She also stated that she receives regular e mails from the Patriot Guard regarding soldiers that are coming home or have fallen and she would like to share this information with the Subcommittee.

-Jim Haskins reported that he had seen a segment on television that a bridge in the Town of Peshtigo had been dedicated to Pfc. Steven T. Drees who was killed in Afghanistan in 2009.

-John Maino stated that he will bring posters and flyers to the next meeting regarding the Inaugural City Stadium 5K run that will be held on September 8 to benefit the Wounded Warriors Softball team. He also stated that the Wounded Warriors will be playing in Fond du Lac on July 7, 2012 and encouraged people to attend if they could.

-Duane Pierce reported that he had read the article in the paper regarding Veterans Court and he thanked Jerry Polus and the rest of his crew for getting this started.

-John Walschinski stated that the commander and another member of the VFW in Duck Creek are on the ad hoc committee with the Village of Howard for the Veterans Memorial which will be across the street from their VFW Post. He prepared a design of the memorial which he shared with the Subcommittee.

-Donald Bettine and Joe Witkowski did not have anything to report.

8. Such other Matters as Authorized by Law. None.

9. Adjourn.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DONALD BETTINE, SECONDED BY JOHN WALSCHINSKI TO ADJOURN AT 6:03 P.M. VOTE TAKEN. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted,

Therese Giannunzio
Recording Secretary