

Veterans Commission

MINUTES

Members

Dr. Vanessa M. Gattis
Tom Gordy
Arshad Hussain
Nancy Jean-Louis

Donnell E. Johns, Sr.
Cheryl S. H. Lamar
Wayne Murphy
Tim Parrish

Present: Commissioners Dr. Vanessa M. Gattis, Arshad Hussain, Donnell E. Johns, Sr., Cheryl S.H. Lamar (Virtual), Wayne Murphy, Tim Parrish; Director Joe Gilkerson, Admin Veronica Marquez and no citizens. Vice-Chair Tim Parrish called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Administrative Comments

- Discussed local veteran that needed assistance with their personal property taxation. Situation has been remedied and will follow up.
- Joe Gilkerson distributed handouts from the Virginia Veterans Department.

Minutes

- Minutes of April 25, 2022 were approved (Parrish-moved/Gattis-seconded/Unanimous).

Public Comment Time

- None.

Next Meetings

- Northern Virginia Veterans Association guest speaker Major Garcia.

New Business

- Standing rules moved to next meeting.
- Discussed quarterly service project and will look into options for projects.
- Veterans Information Fair moved to next meeting.
- Discussed Memorial Day Ceremony on Friday, May 27th at 10:00 am at Freedom War Memorial Plaza. Rehearsal for the ceremony will take place at 9:00 am. Donnell E. Johns Sr. and Vice-Chair Tim Parrish volunteered to participate in the wreath laying ceremony.
- Review draft resolution for Parks and Recreation discounts moved to next meeting.
- Review draft resolution for Holiday Observances and Events moved to next meeting.

- Commissioner Johns Sr. discussed about event on Saturday June 18th from 9 am to 4 pm at the Fort Belvoir Exchange. Would like other Commissioners to attend this event.

Commissioners Time

- Commissioner Gattis – Discussed attending Memorial Day Ceremony with her supervisor. Spoke about her input for the Woodbridge district monthly newsletter. Spoke about her write-ups in the newsletter and her input for the Memorial Day newsletter. Will send a copy of the Memorial Day write-up to the Veterans Commission email. Notified Commission of event for PWCS students that are committed to military service after graduation on May 25th at 5:00 pm at the Kelly Leadership Center, 14715 Bristow Rd, Manassas, VA 20112. Commission would like to recognize these students in some way at the ceremony.
- Commissioner Murphy – Thanked staff for their work. Spoke about website being up and running but would like to know if there is another way to show thew information in the “resources” section.
- Commissioner Johns Sr. – Spoke about members of the County leaving to serve and he would like to recognize these individuals.

The meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm. (Johns Sr-motion/Lamar-seconded/unanimous)