Flagler County Veterans Advisory Council was called to order at 4:00 p.m. on March 4th, 2019 at the Board of County Commissioners Conference Room.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, David Lydon, CVSO, welcomed everyone to the meeting and all attendees followed up by introducing themselves.

Neal McCoppin  MOAA Delegate / VAC Chairman
George Bertish  MOAA Alternate Delegate, V/Chair
David Franks  American Veterans (AMVETS 113), Delegate
David Lydon  County Veterans Service Office (CVSO)
Eric Flores Febles  County Veterans Service Office (AVSO)
Joseph Kowalsky  Marine Corps League, Delegate
Thomas S. Piekarinski  VFW, Delegate
Hank Mangles  American Legion, Delegate
Billy Jones  MOAA – Regular Attendee
Tanya Whitaker  Guest Team RWB
Randy Stapleford  Florida’s 6th Congressional District

Absent:
Chris Sleep  MOPH, Delegate
Freddie Vazquez  DAV, Delegate

Correspondence: None

Committee Reports: None

Scheduled Guests: Mr. Mark Clarke, Columbia County, NY, Honor-a-Veteran Program provided information to the VAC on how their program is organized and functions.

Parades & Ceremonies:

- Robert J. Beck Military Service Honor Cord Ceremony, April 23, 2019, 6pm, at VFW Post 8696, will have Lt Col Ed Waller, USAF (Ret) and the county’s first JROTC instructor as guest speaker. Notifications sent to schools, list of seniors being compiled.

- Congressman Michael Waltz will be the guest speaker for the Memorial Day ceremony.

Old Business:
- Suicide prevention – keeping this topic ongoing as the community attempts to find solutions. Tanya brought information about a group that partners with Team RWB that offers to conduct awareness training to organizations. Tanya agreed to check with the group to see when they could come to conduct training in Flagler County.

- Neal met with Jim Marindino, Dir. Campus Services Daytona State College as part of veteran outreach. Jim Related he would invite the veterans organizations to participate in relevant functions to help with exposure.

- Neal discussed the consideration to have Team RWB voted into the VAC. It was decided to have Tanya ask her organization captain if they would be agreeable to letting their Flagler “satellite” officially join the VAC. Next meeting it will be addressed again.

**New Business:**

- George discussed improving the VAC’s and service organizations’ profile in the county with more media exposure. Neal and George will meet with the editors of the local newspapers to request some monthly space in their publications.

**Good and Welfare:**

Tom Piekarski working on organizing the Armed Forces Day family picnic at the VFW. He’s seeking help and is having a meeting 3/28, 2pm, at VFW.

Patrick Juliano discussed the city’s Memorial Day program and asked for support from the service organizations. The city’s Veterans Day program / picnic is still being planned as well.

Randy Stapleford discussed the current status of the St Augustine CBOC and plans for a new Daytona Beach Clinic.

The next VAC meeting will be at 4:00PM on April 1, 2019 at the Board of County Commissioners Conference Room.

David Lydon, CVSO
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