Flagler County Veterans Advisory Council
1769 East Moody Blvd
Bunnell, Florida 32110

American Legion Post 115
Disabled American Veterans 86
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8696
Military Order of the Purple Heart

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VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Flagler County Veterans Advisory Council called to order at 4:00 p.m. on September 9, 2019 at the Board of County Commissioners Conference Room.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Eric Flores Febles, ACVSO, welcomed everyone to the meeting and all attendees followed up by introducing themselves.

In attendance:
Neal McCoppin, MOAA Delegate / VAC Chairman
Joseph Kowalsky, Marine Corps League, Delegate
Freddie Vazquez, DAV, Delegate
Eric Flores Febles, County Veterans Service Office (AVSO)
Billy Jones, MOAA – Regular Attendee
Hank Mangles, American Legion, Delegate
Thomas S. Piekarski, VFW, Delegate
Joey Pellegrino, Palm Coast Observer
Paul Mayo, U.S. Census

Absent:
George Bertish, MOAA Alternate Delegate, V/Chair
Tanya Whitaker, Team RWB
Chris Sleep, MOPH, Delegate

Correspondence: None

Scheduled Guests: Paul Mayo, from the U.S. Census talked about the opportunities to work for the U.S. Census 2020 and how to apply.

Parades & Ceremonies:

- Continue with preparations for Veterans Day Ceremonies (County/City/Flagler Beach) events dates and hours.
- DAV agreed to bring refreshment to Flagler County Veterans Day ceremony.
- Confirmed US Army (Ret) Brigadier General Ernest “Ernie” C. Audino as a guest speaker.
- Continued to remind the VAC members that the 2019 Flagler County Veteran of the Year selection will be conducted on October 10, 2019 at 4:00pm in the BOCC Conference Room, GSB, 1769 East Moody Blvd, Bunnell, FL. The selection committee will consist of the following members: (BOCC (Charles Erickson(1)), Flagler County Schools (John Fischer (1)), FC Sherriff Dep (Chief of Staff Mark Strobridge (1)), and FC Fire Dep (Nate Webster(1)). VAC (Neal McCoppin (1))
- Discussed the details of the City of Palm Coast Veterans Day Celebration event on November 11, 2019 at the Central Park in Town Center from 11:00am to 1:00pm.
- DAV delegate Freddie Vazquez said that DAV is hosting a Test Drive funds raising event at the Golden Corral Restaurant in Palm Coast at 4:30pm. He also reminded the VAC members that on Veterans Day, all Veterans eat free at the Golden Corral.
- Freedom Fest 2019 will be at the Airport on November 16, 2019 from 10:00am to 9:00pm. Local Military Organization that confirmed their participation are the American Legion Post 115, Disabled American Veteran Chapter 86, Brave-Aid, Red White, & Blue, VFW Post 8696, and the Navy League Sea Cadets. The organization are allow to set their tents/booth with their organizations info the night before.

Committee Reports: N/A

Old Business:
- Flagler County Veterans Service Office continue to process Blue Water Navy disability claims.
- Listen to Veterans on Point radio show. Every Sunday at 9:30am on WNZF 94.9fm.

New Business:
- Thomas S. Piekarski discussed the Veterans History Project in Palm Coast, FL for all Veterans that are interested. He offered to be in the Veterans on Point radio show to spread the word and give more details regarding the Veterans History Project.
- VAC Chairman Neal McCoppin welcome Palm Coast Observer representative.
- Joe Kowalski, VFW delegated said that the Flagler County Chamber of Commerce is planning to have a Free Breakfast for Veterans event on November 7, 2019 at 8:00am at the VFW Post 8696 in Old Kings road. More details will follow.
- Eric Flores Febles talked about the Guitar for Vets program in Port Orange that is available to all Veterans with disabilities.

Good and Welfare: None

The next VAC meeting will be at 4:00PM on October 7, 2019 at the BOCC Conference Room, GSB, 1769 East Moody Blvd, Bunnell, FL.

Eric Flores Febles, Acting CVSO
Flagler County Veterans Services
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