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

American Legion Post 115               Marine Corps League 876
Disabled American Veterans 86          Military Officers Association of America
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8696    AMVETS Post 113
Military Order of the Purple Heart     Team RWB

VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Flagler County Veterans Advisory Council called to order at 4:00 p.m. on January 6, 2020 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        VAC Chairman
Peggy Hengeveld     MOAA Delegate
Joseph Kowalsky     Marine Corps League, Delegate
Eric Flores Febles  County Veterans Service Office (AVSO)
Randy Stapleford    Florida’s 6th Congressional District
Billy Jones          MOAA – Regular Attendee
Hank Mangles         American Legion, Delegate
Daniel Waldron       CVMA Guest
John Morris          MOAA Delegate
Tom Pierkarski       VFW/DAV Delegate

Absence:
David Franks        AMVETS

Correspondence: None

Scheduled Guests: None

Parades & Ceremonies:
- The Four Chaplain Ceremony details were discussed.
- Military Honor Cord Ceremony was discussed. Still need to choose a date in April 2020 to do the ceremony.
- 2020 Memorial Day Ceremony was discussed. Suggestions for guest speaker still open. The ceremony will be on May 25, 2020 at 10:00am at the Veterans Memorial Monument in front of the Flagler County Government Service Building, 1769 East Moody Blvd., Bunnell, FL 32110. All local organizations need to bring their organization flag.

Committee Reports: N/A

Old Business: N/A

New Business:
- Tanya Whitaker will no longer represent Team RWB organization. She will be more involve with the AL Post 115. She stated that she was going to talk to Team RWB to see if they would like to have someone as a delegate.
- Eric Flores stated that the local chapter of the MOPH was disbanded due to lack of membership.
- VAC Chairman welcome the Palm Coast Observer representative as well as two new MOOA representatives.
- Eric Flores reminded everyone that we still need all organizations 2020 delegate letters.
- George Bertish step down as the VAC Chairman but will participate on the monthly meetings as need it.
- VAC Chairman reminded everyone that we still need a guest speaker for the Seniors Cord Ceremony. Mr. Stapleford asked if the VAC would not mind to invite Brig Gen Audino to be the guest speaker. VAC members agreed to invite him once the VAC choose the date of the ceremony in April. VAC Chairman have to draft an invitation letter.
- Eric Flores gave copies of the VAC By-laws to all delegates for review. VAC Chairman told delegate to share the By-law with their organizations and to bring feedback to our next VAC meeting in February 2020.
- Tom Piekarski talked about the Veterans History Project. He asked to pass the word around and to promote this program. Randy Stapleford also mentioned that Congressman Waltz office is also running a history project program and anyone interested can go to the Congressman Webpage to sign up. Tom Piekarski asked Jonathan, from the Palm Coast Observer newspaper, if he can put an ad of this program in the newspaper.
- 2020 Chairman and Vice-Chairman selection took place. Votes where casted. Mr. Neil McCopping was selected as the 2020 Chairperson and Mr. Hank Mangles was selected as the 2020 Vice-Chairperson of the VAC.
- Neal McCopping addressed the need to have the delegate letters done by the next VAC meeting.
- Daniel Waldron from the Combat Veterans Motorized Organization was present at the VAC meeting. He stated that his organization may be interested in joining the VAC. Chairman McCoppin told him that if their organization decide to join the VAC, they need to submit a written request.
- The Homeless Point In Time count event was discussed. Eric Flores said that a flyer was sent via email to all VAC delegates.
- Eric Flores reminded the VAC members that the radio show “Veterans On Point” is there to be use and that this platform is a good venue to promote all the local military organizations upcoming events.
- Top Piekarski share information about the VFW National Home fund raising event. He also talked about Fort McKoy’s VFW Veterans Village.
- Randy Stapleford mentioned that the St. Augustine, FL VA CBOC opening ceremony went well. He also mentioned that the relocation of the Daytona Beach, FL VA OPC is on the works.
- Randy Stapleford stated that as of now, VA have not yet authorized DAV to use their VA vehicles to transport Veterans for their medical outside VA facilities. He also briefed the VAC members on the Congressman Walt’s view on Iran and stated that if anyone is interested to know the Congressman Waltz views on the Iran situation, they are on the Congressman Webpage.
- Selective Services and the military recruitment programs were discussed.

Good and Welfare:
- DAV sponsor Casino Night event was discussed
- VFW sponsor Bingo Night event was discussed.

The next VAC meeting will be at 4:00PM on February 3, 2020 at the BOCC Conference Room, GSB, 1769 East Moody Blvd., Bunnell, FL 32110.

Eric Flores Febles, Acting CVSO
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