

Township of Egg Harbor

Veterans Advisory Board

Cardiff VFW Post 8098
3029 Spruce Avenue, EHT

February 24, 2014

MINUTES

Member Lundberg called the meeting to order at 7:05PM.

Members recited the Pledge of Allegiance and members held a moment of silence for the departed.

Roll Call: Dan Clayton – *Absent*
Milas Cook – Present
Mike Ebert – Present
William Hegarty – Present
Paul Hodson – *Absent, excused*
Douglas Lundberg, Jr. – Present
Pat Moschetto – *Absent*
John Rush – Present

Guests: None.

NOTE

§ With the noted absence of Member Hodson, and the fact the Board currently does not have a chairperson, Member Lundberg suggested that Member Ebert conduct the meeting as he held senior-most membership on the Board. Ebert agreed and led the meeting.

APPROVALS

§ Minutes of January 27, 2014

Last meeting minutes were discussed.

- Motion to accept minutes as read: Motion made by Ebert, second Lundberg. All present voted- yes.

OLD BUSINESS

§ Veterans Advisory Board Resolution Modernization

The Board discussed in depth Member Ebert and Lundberg's review of their proposed reworking of the 1997 Resolution that initially established the Board. The goal is to update and clarify Board guidelines and procedures.

Member Lundberg pointed out that based on the 1997 Resolution that current Board membership is overloaded by one member. This fact further demonstrates the need to clarify Board procedures, in this example, a clear understanding of appointment procedures and the number of seats.

Member Cook brought up, and the Board discussed, the proposed number of three members to establish a quorum. It was generally thought that three would allow important business to be conducted while members not in attendance would have no say. Member Lundberg reminded the Board that a three member quorum was chosen because of the Board's past troubles of establishing a quorum based on the traditional simple majority rule. Members could not agree on what number would best serve as a quorum.

Member Rush brought up, and the Board discussed, what would establish member qualifications. At issue was what would qualify a member for veteran status, and thus, membership on the Board. It was decided that the proposed qualifications remain.

Member Rush brought up, and the Board discussed, the procedure of appointing veterans to the Board. At issue was who would look over the qualifying documentation and if the Board had any say on who could/should be appointed. It was agreed that the proposed qualifications remain.

As members could not decide as a whole on the number of members to establish a quorum, Member Lundberg requested a vote on the issue:

- Motion to change proposed quorum in the proposed Modernized Resolution from three members to five, with the understanding that five was contingent on the Township Committee accepting a Board of ten members and one liaison for a total of eleven:
→ Motion made by Ebert, second Rush. All present voted yes except Lundberg who voted no. Motion passed by majority.

With the proposed Modernized Resolution discussed and reviewed by the Board:

- Motion to accept the proposed Modernized Resolution, with the indicated change to quorum amount, and submit it to the Township Committee for review and approval:
→ Motion made by Lundberg, second Rush. All present voted- yes.

§ 2014 Board Appointments

Member Lundberg reminded the Board that appointments for both Chairperson and Secretary must be made for 2014. Member Ebert suggested, and members agreed, to postponing appointments until all members have the opportunity to express interest in serving in a position and to make their vote.

****All members are hereby notified that their presence is requested at the March 24th meeting in order to establish Board Appointments. If a member cannot attend, they should be prepared to cast a vote by proxy.****

Member Rush expressed interest in serving as chairperson. Member Lundberg expressed interest in serving as secretary. Member Ebert expressed interest in serving in a position yet undecided.

§ Pathway Bricks at Veterans Memorial Park

Member Rush inquired if the Board had voted on formally accepting Veterans Memorial Park as the location of dedication bricks. Such an action could not be confirmed, and he will research the issue.

Member Lundberg reminded the Board that Member Hodson had made mention of the possibility of the Township dedicating resources to park improvement in the near future, and that no matter the location of the bricks any attempt to enhance the park should keep future Township plans in mind.

Member Ebert requested that, unless it was found previously voted on, that a vote to be taken next meeting to commit the Board to the brick project and to decide their site location.

§ Wounded Warrior Project (WWP) Fraudulent Claim

Member Rush expressed the notion that the Board should not have any dealings with the issue of the WWP and the Township Golf Tournament in general.

Member Ebert mentioned that because the Board was notified of the fraudulent claims that the Board had to investigate on behalf of the Township veterans.

Member Lundberg expressed that because the Golf Tournament is a Township function in order to provide assistance to veterans, it falls under the mission of the Veterans Advisory Board and thus the Board is obligated to be involved at some point, even if only to make suggestions.

Members generally agreed that it was within the scope of the Board to provide guidance and suggestions concerning the Golf Tournament.

§ Memorial Day 2014

Member Lundberg updated the board on the status of the EHTPD color guard providing a 21 Gun Salute during the Memorial Day ceremony. He found that the color guard was able to receive color guard training at Fort Dix/McGuire Air Force Base, but that this training did not include the gun salute. Lundberg will continue to inquire into this possibility and see if the Board could assist the color guard in obtaining the necessary training.

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Member Rush suggested that if the Township Police are unable to provide and gun salute perhaps the Atlantic County Sheriff Department could.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting scheduled for March 24, 2014 at 7:00PM.

****Again, all members are hereby notified that their presence is requested at the March 24th meeting in order to establish Board Appointments. If a member cannot attend, they should be prepared to cast a vote by proxy.****

- Motion to adjourn the meeting made at 8:15PM:
→ Motion made by Ebert, second Rush. All present voted- yes.

Douglas Lundberg, Member
Acting Secretary