



MANATEE COUNTY VETERANS COUNCIL
P.O. BOX 1881
BRADENTON, FL 34206
WWW.MY-MCVC.ORG



September 20, 2018
Manatee County Veterans Council Monthly Meeting
Location: American Legion Kirby Stewart Post 24 in Bradenton, Florida

Chairman Carl Hunsinger began the meeting at 11am with all reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed by prayer from our past Chaplain, Carol Saggau filling for Pat Stiles.

1. Chairman Hunsinger welcomed all in attendance and provided a few administrative comments.
2. Presentations:
 - a. Dr. Eric Hodges provided a progress update on the USF Veteran and Family Quality of Life Study. This will be the first-ever 21st Century Florida county level study of this type. Several focus groups have already been conducted with an ongoing steering committee. Surveys will be sent out in the next 30 days. Facebook page and website for this study will be available soon. More to come at the next update.
 - b. Jeffrey Ryan/Madison Moyer – Briefed all on Open Streets Manatee. Event will be November 10th at 9AM. More information can be found at; <https://www.openstreetsmanatee.com/>
3. New Members/Guests: New members introduced.
4. Chairman Hunsinger called for a quorum by having all voting members identify themselves. He confirmed the quorum with an updated membership roster. A quorum was established.
5. August 2018 Minutes: There was no discussion with a motion to accept the minutes as presented. We had a second and the motion was carried unanimously.
6. Treasurer: Margaret Smelser provided the financial report. The specifics can be reviewed on the website at www.my-mcvc.org under the secured page. There was a motion to file for review. The motion received a second and was passed unanimously. There was suggestion that we do away with the POB and have mail sent to Margaret's home and other committee leader's homes. The Chair said we will not do that since we need to have address continuity and have funds sent to a home address is mixing business with a personal address. A financial review and budget committee was appointed with MCVC Treasurer as Chair of that committee.
7. Manatee County Veteran Services update: Lee Washington introduced his new Veteran Service Officer Sean Morris who was a Veteran Service Officer with the VFW in Ellenton. Lee discussed new law limitations to long term care be raised from \$80K to \$123K.
8. Veterans Court Manatee County, 12 Judicial Circuit: Melissa still needs more volunteer mentors for our troubled Veterans in need. You can contact her direct at MBomar@jud12.flcourts.org.
9. Sarasota County Veterans Commission, Marty Donner briefed all that their Veterans Commission is working on the Manasota Military Ball. More info to follow at the next MCVC meeting.
10. Chair Hunsinger recently attended a meeting with Goodwill leadership CEO and Vice President. Goodwill Veteran Services is currently redefining what they will do for and how they will support Veterans and their families. More to come on this at the next meeting.

11. VA Representative Sarasota National Cemetery – John brief all that they will celebrate Veterans Day at 3pm on Nov 11 at Patriot Plaza. The cemetery has a landscape improvement program ongoing. Wreaths Across America will be at the SNC December 15, 2018. Program starts at 10am with 13,500 wreaths place earlier in the morning by volunteers.
12. Turning Points – Edwin Robinson briefed all on the upcoming annual stand down event at the County Fairgrounds (flyer is located on our website under EVENTS). He thanked the Veterans Council for our donation for Stand Down and the same thing for a substantial donation from the Manasota ELKS in care of Jim Klocke. Event scheduled for 8am – 12 noon on November 3, 2018.
13. Old Business: None.
14. Standing Committees:
 - a. Annual Awards Program: Don Courtney briefed that we have three nominees for Veteran of the Year of which one was Carl Hunsinger our Chairman. Carl declined stating that even though the bylaws do not forbid the MCVV Chair from being nominated for consideration, he felt it was unethical. We have two Annual Award Veteran of the Year nominees; David Daily and James Klocke. Civilian of the Year nominees are; Batina Tramaglino and Betty Chambliss. Unfortunately, there were no Auxiliary nominations this year. Voting members should review the nomination packages located on our website under the AWARDS PROGRAM page at <http://www.my-mcvc.org/awards-program/> and be prepared to vote at our next monthly meeting. Please review the guidelines for the Awards program on the same page.
 - b. Flag and Patriotism Program: No update.
 - c. Veterans Day: Don Courtney, Committee Chair Veterans Day 2018 has setup 3rd and final planning meeting October 18th at 2PM and will be held at the Palmetto City Hall in the Mayor's office.
 - d. Veterans Park: We still need an additional \$1400 to pay for the Annual Awards slates. We already have \$1000 donated by the American Legion Post 24 Ladies Auxiliary for this effort.
15. New Business: None.
16. Bradenton Kiwanis will provide a Veterans Appreciation Luncheon on Nov 6th at 11am downtown Bradenton at the Manatee Performing Arts Center on the 2nd floor. The Kiwanis will donate \$1,000 for Veterans Day events. This will be a ticketed event.
17. Around the room remarks and discussion was good with much information provided to all in attendance.
18. The next MCVV meeting will be held on Thursday October 18, 2018 at the American Legion Kirby Stewart Post 24 and at the same time of 1100am.
19. Closing prayer by Carol Saggau, Meeting Adjourned at 12:13pm.

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Lance Biddle
Secretary
Manatee County Veterans Council