



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



March 21, 2019
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 Edwin Robinson.

1. Chairman Hunsinger welcomed all in attendance and announced that he and Bill Carey of Manatee County Veterans' Court mentorship program met with Florida House of Representatives Tommy Gregory. The proposal presented to Representative Gregory was to fund the Mentorship Program and standardize the process throughout Florida starting with Manatee County. It seems this will likely be introduced at the next session.
2. Presenter: Renee Cole representing a new assisted living facility informed all in attendance that they will soon open near SR70 and I-75 and will be ready to support Veterans. She even offered to provide a tour of the facility if we would like to do so.
3. New Members/Guests: New members introduced.
4. Chairman Hunsinger called for a quorum by having all voting members identify themselves. The Chair and Vice Chair confirmed the quorum with an updated membership roster. A quorum was established per MCVC Bylaws.
5. February 21, 2019 Minutes: There was a motion on the floor to accept the minutes as presented. We had a second and the motion was carried unanimously.
6. Treasurer Report: 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.
7. Treasurer Margaret Smelser informed all that we had lost our 501c19 status since taxes had not been submitted by the previous Treasurer. She indicated she has been filling out the required forms and would act to rectify the situation. She did solicit help from anyone that has done taxes and filled out forms. Theresa Cobb offered to assist Margaret. She also informed all that we will not have our website once Chairman Hunsinger leaves since he had personally donated funds and time to develop and maintain the website. Seeking a volunteer to carry forward the website to avoid losing all the work that went into it. The website will be paid for and maintained by Carl until July 1st. The estimated cost to keep the website will be about \$35 monthly which includes the domain, web building software and server space.
8. Manatee County Veterans' Services: Lee Washington briefed all that he will have an Intern assigned to his office. His office will start a project to setup a Memorial wall for the Gulf War era of 2000 – until the Gulf war era is over. He also provided to all a schedule about when and where his office will be presenting what his office can do to assist.
9. Woody briefed about the Vietnam recognition ceremony at the Sarasota National Cemetery that there will be a Vietnam Veteran ceremony which will include a wreath laying ceremony this March 30th. He requested assistance for parking.

10. Veterans Court Manatee County, 12 Judicial Circuit: Bill Carey indicated that he is always looking for mentors. Discussed a graduation ceremony for Veterans that have successfully completed the Veterans Court program.
11. Sarasota County Veterans Commission: Woody told all that the Military Ball was a great success with about 165 attending.
12. Turning Points: Edwin Robinson briefed that they are working with a hand full of clients help to employ, house and cloth Veterans in need. He also briefed about Sarasota's Stand Down and their Amnesty Court.
13. Old Business: None.
14. Standing Committees:
 - a. Legislative Update: Brian Russ provided updates on current and proposed legislation that effects all Veterans and community. Provided update on Agent Orange. He also notified all that the VA will introduce and use a nasal spray that will help Veterans with depression.
 - b. Bylaws revision committee: Theresa Cobb and her committee have completed their review and made recommended changes. Voting members present were provided a copy of the recommended revisions and were given until the next meeting to provide addition recommendations. Also, a copy of the committee's changes will be on the website. If there are no other changes for the April meeting, the committee will finalize for signature before the May meeting.
 - c. Veterans' Monument Park: Jim Klocke briefed all on the maintenance of our park. He ordered the new annual awards wall and expects to have it in place by late April. Theresa Cobb has park brick assignment book and is almost done with the brick layout directory.
15. Edwin Robinson will take the lead on the Memorial Day 2019 ceremony with Don Courtney's assistance. Don indicated they have already begun working towards the event.
16. A motion was made to spend \$500 out of general funds to generate an updated 501c19 for the MCVV. There was a second and the motion carried unanimously.
17. New Business: Theresa Cobb and two other members volunteered, and Theresa was appointed to lead the Nomination Committee. They will present the slate at the April meeting.
18. Around the room remarks and discussion. Several Veteran related events that can be found on our website www.my-mcvc.org.
19. The next MCVV meeting will be held on Thursday April 18, 2019 at the American Legion Kirby Stewart Post 24 and at the same time of 11am.
20. Closing prayer. Meeting adjourned at 12:02am.

///ELECTRONICALLY SIGNED///

Lance Biddle
Secretary
Manatee County Veterans' Council