

Thurston County Veterans Advisory Board
30 October 2023
Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Bill Powell, Ken Borque, Matt Hout, Anthony Moye, Heather Miles, and Brandon Frawley.

Others Present: Mark Moffett, Candace McCutchen, and Rob Gelder.

Meeting Opening:

The meeting was held at 6:00 p.m.

Scott motions to approve August and September minutes. Brandon seconds. August and September minutes were approved.

Bill welcomes all to the forum.

Veteran Stand-Down Update

- Bill has announced that the standdown will take place on November 9th.
- According to Bill, there are 49 vendors confirmed for the event.
- Bill has informed us that the event will commence at 9 a.m., and he will be present at 6:45 a.m. to assist with the set-up.
- Bill has scheduled a walk-through for November 7th at 1 p.m.
- The Red Cross Disaster team will provide the food, as reported by Bill.
- During the meeting, the board discussed the placement of the vendors.
- Mark shared that Thurston County will be offering flu and Covid-19 vaccinations.
- Candace provided a brief overview of participating vendors like Sunrise Dental, Comcast, Goodwill, and Habitat for Humanity.
- Candace mentioned that 54 tables have been requested so far.
- The food provided by the Red Cross will be served between 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
- Mark is looking into arranging a shuttle service for residents at the Drexel House who would like to attend the event.
- Candace mentioned that she would procure the food items on the morning of the event.
- Candace emphasized the need for commercial food storage.
- Candace and Tracey have resolved their concerns and have everything figured out, as reported by Candace.
- The board engaged in a discussion about utilizing various platforms and service organizations for advertisements.

Personal Changes/Hiring Process

- Mark provides an update that they are currently in the hiring process for vacant positions within the Veterans program.
- Mark informs that they are operating from Lilly Road and plan to return to the hub once the vacant positions are filled.
- Candace has temporarily assumed the role of supporting the direct service position.
- The Mark projection aims to hire a program manager within three weeks.

Old/New Business

- Bill and Scott conducted outreach activities in Lewis County with their Veterans Advisory Board.
- Scott showcased several of their programs, including quarterly frisbee golf, book issuance at Timberline Library, sponsorship of veteran service officers, and an effort to expand their outreach capacity to support and represent veterans. Additionally, they have established a strong partnership with the Veterans Memorial Museum.
- Scott mentioned that they offer vouchers for rent, gas, and food; however, I couldn't obtain specific information about their threshold.
- Scott was greatly impressed by the high engagement level displayed by every Lewis County board member.
- Scott emphasizes the significance of developing a detailed event calendar and fostering collaboration with other counties for upcoming events.
- Mark proposes strengthening our efforts in implementing a forecasted calendar and acquiring more details about the sub-committees involved.

Vice Chair / Secretary Discussion

- Scott volunteers to be the vice chair, and after a vote, the board approves his nomination.
- Scott Frazier has been elected as the new Vice-Chair, while Brandon Frawley will continue to serve as the secretary.
- During the board meeting, increasing the number of board members is discussed.
- Mark has expressed his intention to examine the process involved in expanding the number of board members.

Around the room adjourned

- Next, board meetings will be held on November 27th and December 18th.
- There being no further business. Bill Powell adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m. Brandon Frawley recorded the minutes.