



ANTRIM COUNTY

VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Tom Sandeen, Chairperson
Alissa Winters, Vice Chairperson

11 May MEETING MINUTES

Members present: Joe Renis, Roger Simons, Carrie Perez, Alissa Winters, Ed Boettcher, Brandon Corbin, Jessi Smith and Libby Hiser

Members absent: Tom Sandeen

Others present: None

1. Meeting was called to order at: 2.06

2. Minutes from April 11, 2022 were read and approved:

- a. Motion to approve minutes: Roger Simon moves to accept the minutes as read and Alissa Winters second's.

3. County Veteran Burial Applications:

- a. Were Approved Unanimously

4. Invoices for Veteran Marker Settings:

- a. None

5. Antrim County Veterans Affairs Emergency Relief Fund:

- a. None

6. New Business

- a. MVS Photography is volunteering their services to aid in the creation and maintaining of ACVA's social media presence. They will also be

helping with outreach events and profile pictures. This will be huge.

He will be helping with creating a b roll and tic tock.

- b. Updates from MACVC conference.
- c. ACVA has registered to have a booth at both Northwestern Veterans/Military April 21st & GT County June 17th Expos. Tim will be helping with the GT County Expo. Along with the Bass Festival June 2-5 and Petoskey Stone Festival May 28th.
- d. Office outreach shirts have been designed and produced. These will be given out during outreach events.
- e. GT County is giving us 40 tickets to their concert to hand out throughout the county.
- f. Tim is officially retired; Jessi's accreditation is not till August 2022. Jessi will be getting her accreditation virtually.
- g. We are assigning Libby outreach duties on Wednesdays, starting May 11th. Monday and Fridays she will be in the office performing her VSO duties. We have created an outreach tracker.
- h. The satellite sites that Tim was covering both Jessi and myself will be going out to.
- i. FY23 ACVA is trying to partner with partnering counties and putting on a Vet Fest (Veteran Festival). Kalkaska has already offered \$5,000.00 in support of this.
- j. We are considering the need for another VSO. More information is needed to justify the need. We have around 2,200 veterans within the county. We have contact with about 700. There is a lack of knowledge with our younger veterans, which it makes it more difficult

to connect to those veterans. Bringing money into the county from a federal source is good for the county.

- k. Vet Fest and other family oriented events (e.g. Meadowbrook fishing event) are important to reach the younger vets who have younger families. Craft/paint and sips, food with activities, quarterly meals, and movie under the stars.
- l. MVAA/CVSF Grant applications are due May 20th. I have been granted an extension on the due date. Our applications are completed and BAR has been submitted for the commissioners meeting on the 19th of May. Application is attached for review.
- m. Shout out for Antrim counties web services room at the conference.
- n. Accounting
 - i. Current balances/Budget
- o. Update on the window.
- p. Reviewed Grant Application
 - i. Printing & Publishing
 - ii. Uniforms
 - iii. Promotional items
 - iv. Record keeping
 - i. Two lock cabinets to keep promotional items
 - ii. Changed the receptionist to add more questions to better track information.
 - v. Office improvement
 - i. Working coffee pot
 - ii. Educational tv for veterans

- iii. vinyl wall display
- vi. Meijer Voucher Program
- vii. Driver program changes
- q. Carrie Perez discussed Coffee Talks experience, seeing new faces.
Thank you, Carrie.
- r. Outreach discussion
- s. Receptionist update – office is getting very busy.

7. Coalition meeting notes (Alissa Winters)

8. Mike assistant fire chief – offered Alden Fire Dept. to be a place for Coffee Talks and as a satellite office.

9. Appeals – We are expecting Dustin Doyle to appeal based on new information.

10. Next month's meeting to be canceled. Alissa Winters motioned, Carrie Perez second.

11. Old Business

- a. None

12. Closing

- a. Prayer
- b. Adjourned: 15:26

List of Events (POC: Alissa Winters)

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- Traveling Vietnam Veterans Wall

- July 14-17 in Battle Creek, MI
- Reining Liberty Ranch
 - Wesley the therapy horse makes visits
 - May 23, 6pm, Trivia Night Fundraiser @Short's Pull Barn (Elk Rapids)
 - Their Facebook page is LOADED with events and things!!
- May 21st – Great American Shoot Out
- Guitars4Vets
 - Guitars4vets.org
 - There is a cyber chapter for vets more than 40 miles from a chapter
- Royal Oak putting up new WWII wall
 - <https://michiganww2memorial.org/>