

Ann Arbor Veterans Council

Meeting: July 26, 2016

Time: 10:30 - 11:45am

Room: 728

Minutes for June meeting

and

AGENDA

May meeting minutes accepted.

We welcomed a new Member: Dave La Pointe, PhD, MBA, CCT, SPHR, - SMSG/USAF Ret.

Kirk L. reminded us of the “Mastering Digital Photography Program” with the Summer Session starting July 11th. Classes are held Monday and Thursday from 6pm to 9pm: 5 weeks (10 classes) and there will be two field trips on Saturdays to Greenfield Village and the Henry Ford Museum. This is a FREE PROGRAM for Veterans and their spouses; cameras are supplied for use during the session. For more information, please contact Kirk - klanam@veteraneducation.org or (517) 672-3000. The Fall Session will start on October 3rd.

Paul J. informed us about the Ann Arbor administration’s decision to move the Comp. and Pen. Office out of the Medical Center. Council Members are upset and said this will make the claim filing process too inconvenient and discouraging. April L. had not heard about this decision and said that Vets coming here to file claims also have other appointments in the hospital so this move can cause problems; some Veterans who come here for a Com. and Pen. appointment also need to register for services in the VA Healthcare System. Security is also an issues because some Vets get angry during a Comp. and Pen. meeting.

Billie W. said the CWT Program stopped because the program does not have enough case managers. Many Veterans have been helped by participating in this program; some Vets who are homeless &/or having social interaction problems have greatly benefited from this program. Without the CWT workers Billie’s staff is having a difficult time handling the Information Desk and transporting patients.

A meeting with Dr. Young (Acting Director) will be set to discuss these problems.

{Post-meeting note: April L. discovered that the Patient Advocates will not be moved out of the Medical Center.}

Starting July 24th April L. will be the Acting Public Affairs Officer because Derek Atkinson is going to the Dominos Farms facility to work for the VA Central Office. Isaac Grove will go to Northern Indiana to be their Public Affairs Officer.

John M. had some problems with some of the services he has received. April L. and Paul J. said he needs to go to his PACT desk; April will help him with this process.

April L. gave us posters for the Veteran’s Family Celebration at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Grounds in Ypsilanti on July 4th. She told us about an

Outreach program to help 40 Vets in an assisted care center. The Golden Age Games needs volunteers. She will host the POW Picnic in July. A Veteran Appreciation Event will be in Howell on August 13th from NOON TO 4pm in the Brighton Recreation Area. The Mental Health Summit will be in September; the topics will be Suicide Prevention and Awareness, and the Choice Program.

Kirk L. has updated our Council website and he will put April's announcements on the website. April will also put the announcements on our Council's bulletin board.

Council talked about ways to recruit more members and we will continue this discussion. April will talk with Debra Hinson, the Transition Program Coordinator.

AGENDA

1. Preliminary activities: Sign-in Sheet, Minutes accepted, New Members.
2. Guest Speaker: Amy Murbach, Interior Designer/Project Manager.
3. Paul J.
4. April L.
5. Kirk L.
6. John B.
7. Mark L.
8. Other Thoughts, Topics, Comments, Suggestions

Please mark your calendar - Next Council meeting will be **August 23, 2016** on Tuesday, 10:30 - 11:45am in Room 728.

Members* :

Terry Keck Gary Bourdeau Don Behm Asuki O'Neill Joe
Riedy April LaRock Paul Jingoian Maurice
Warren Alex Beach Lori Young Erik Cuolahan Bo Westerkamp
Mark Lyubkin Kirk Lanam Dave La Pointe Scott Brooks-Miller Dave

Reed John Branstetter Mark Lindke Ray Pasquantonio John Murray
Billie Whittaker Denny Moore Dan Vogel Beau Nelson Lloyd
Suter Bruce Schultz Larry Blanchard Bob Board Jon Luker
Rick Donley Ed Roberts