

## **Holly Area Veterans' Resource Center (HAVRC)**

Meeting Minutes –December 14, 2016

Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m.

**In attendance:** Joe Mishler, Ray Pfenning, Art Ingraham, Ina Golden, Scott Dudek, Joe Terranova, and Bruce Friemark

**Agenda:** Minutes, treasurer's report, chair's report, recent successes, Vietnam War Pinning Ceremony December 16, 2016, Jobs for Veterans in the State of Michigan January 3 at HAVRC, State Bank Display January 2017, Yoga, Plan for Town Meetings, increasing Oakland County Veterans Service Officers presence in Holly, Outreach, Signs, Military Library

**Minutes:** Accepted with change; pinning ceremony is to recognize Vietnam War Veterans from the years 1955-1975. Decided to send Superintendent Dave Nuss and Village Manager Jerry Walker monthly HAVRC meeting minutes but not have the minutes go to the Holly Area School Board or the Village of Holly to be included in their reports

**Treasurer's Report** – Accepted

### **Chair's Report**

1. Joe thanked Ray and Ina for washing and waxing the floor
2. Ray created a form for people to sign when they come to the Center – we can track why they come to HAVRC – accepted.
3. Numbers – we have had 45 people come in to the Center in the past 3 months to see the Veterans Service Officers; they came for help and questions pertaining to their military service. Between October and November, 180 people visited the Center; also in December there were 80 phone calls with questions from veterans.
4. Internet capability for the Center – waiting to hear from Village of Holly when infrastructure will be complete so we can use the internet

**Recent successes** – helped with an appeal so an elderly veteran could have a caregiver, helped with medical expenses and bills, facilitated helping a veteran with interviewing skills and resume, arranged for stolen military medals to be replaced, helped find discharge paper (DD-214), helped 6 widows, and helped with home repairs.

**Vietnam War Pinning Ceremony December 16** – Will take place in the auditorium of Karl Richter Community Center, Holly, at 1:00 pm. It is sponsored, in part, by Senator Mike Kowall; Lynne O'Brien from his office is in contact with HAVRC. Viet Nam Veterans along with Viet Nam Era Veterans are eligible to receive a specially made pin commemorating their service between the years 1955 – 1975. After being pinned, the veteran will come to the microphone and state their name, branch of service, years in service and what they did. Treats will be served by "Friends of the Holly Township Library."

**Jobs for Veterans in the State of Michigan** – Bruce Friemark – Bruce noted that there are 550 veterans who are actively looking for work within a 25 mile radius of HAVRC. He is using HAVRC as a "test case" by selectively inviting those veterans for a "State of Michigan Job Fair" January 3, 2017. Representatives from State of Michigan Departments will be on hand to

receive resumes and give information on employment to the veterans. The Oakland County Veteran Services Officers will also be at the Center January 3.

**State Bank Display January 2017** – HAVRC will have a table in the lobby of the bank displaying information and having brochures for our Center. Art and Ina will work on the display.

**Yoga** – The yoga class will be held on Wednesdays February 1, 8, 22 and March 8, 15, 22; Dr. Bender will teach it. It is designed for veterans and their families.

### **2017 Plan – Town Hall Meetings at HAVRC**

- |                                  |           |                         |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| 1. Veterans Issues               | March     | Organizer: Joe Mishler  |
| 2. Agent Orange / Toxic Exposure | May       | Organizer: Art Ingraham |
| 3. PTSD                          | July      |                         |
| 4. Women Veterans                | September | Organizer: Ina Golden   |

**Service Officers – Increasing Presence in Holly**– Due to increasing awareness and appointments/visits, Oakland County Service Officers want to expand their presence in Holly and come out another day each month. We may consider opening up one late afternoon once a month (3:00 pm – 6:00 pm). Michigan Vietnam Veterans of America are looking for outreach and may come to HAVRC once a month.

### **Outreach**

1. **Churches** - would like to add churches and pastors/priests to database of whom to contact for help and would like to inform pastors/priests the type of help we can provide to their parishioners
2. **Township Meetings** – would like to get on the agenda of regularly scheduled Township meetings between now and Easter to “get ourselves out there”, share brochures, and let them know if there is a veteran or a veteran’s family that are in trouble, they know whom to call. We will put together talking points. Joe will visit Groveland, Ina – Rose, Scott – Holly Township, Art – Springfield Township.
3. **Kiwanis Newspaper - Goodfellows** – nice article about HAVRC in the Holly Good Fellow paper this month

**Signs from Calypso Signs** – 2 are done; we need to pick them up.

**Military Library at HAVRC** – Ray will work on it; needs a committee to help

**Meeting adjourned** at 12:30 pm.

**Next meeting** December 28, 2016 at 10:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted:

Ina J. Golden, Secretary