

Holly Area Veterans' Resource Center (HAVRC)

Meeting Minutes – January 3, 2018

Meeting called to order at 10:07 a.m.

In Attendance: Joe Mishler, Ray Pfenning, Art Ingraham, Ina Golden, Bruce Hammond, Paul Dery, Pam Krantz, and Joe Riker from Congressman Bishop's office.

Agenda: Approval of Minutes, Treasurer's Report, Grant from State, Community Impact from Service Officers visits, Thank you from a Veteran, Donated books, Membership Cards, December 7 Ceremony, Notebook on Karl Richter, VCAT, Wish list, HAVRC floor, Christmas Party, Michigan Veteran Long Term Care Home potential opportunity, Veteran Art Show, Program at Holly Township Library, Pure Pro Wrestling, Veteran Expo and Job Fair, Play "Footlocker", Veteran Picnic, V.F.W. Flea Market, Spot Shooter Bow Fest, Veterans Day, HAVRC Membership Card Specifics, Viet Nam Veteran Pinning

Minutes: - accepted with correction – Pam Krantz was present.

Treasurer's Report: - accepted as submitted. HAVRC is now a member of the Holly Chamber of Commerce.

Grant from State – Unfinished business from last month was promised grant money from the State of Michigan that was to be used for the Veteran's Family Picnic in September had not been sent. Joe and Bruce followed up and money was received. HAVRC will complete their questionnaire.

Community Impact From Service Officers Visits – Ray reported that for the first 11 months in 2017, Community Impact was \$787,000. For 2016, the impact was \$630,000. This is a 25% increase from the previous year. Service Officers tell us that HAVRC is their most successful outreach program.

Thank you From a Veteran – Army Viet Nam Veteran Larry Riverton and his wife visited the Resource Center and thanked us for the medal ceremony held for Larry in August. Mr. Riverton had his medals and uniform stolen in a break-in years earlier. His wife visited our Center months ago inquiring how she could procure his medals as they were very important to him. Congressman Bishop's aide, Joe Riker went to work to procure his earned medals and Congressman Bishop presented Army Veteran Larry Riverton with his medals in a small ceremony at the Veterans' Center. Mrs. Riverton brought delicious homemade breads to the Center.

Donated books – A large donation of military books was given to the Scott Dudek Memorial Library by Mr. Peterson from Tyrone Township. Our volunteer librarian, Karen, has been cataloging all the books and she is approximately half way through.

Membership Cards - are available and the price is \$10/year for Veterans, \$20.00 for Veteran and family, non-Veteran \$15.00 and \$25.00 non-veteran and family. Veteran life-time membership is \$100 and cards are available during HAVRC open times, Tuesday and Thursdays from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Cardholders are ensured free access to the military books and discounts to HAVRC events held throughout the year.

December 7 Ceremony – Two Veterans from Holly were honored posthumously and plaques were unveiled in a ceremony. The Holly Area Veterans Resource Center honored Karl Richter and Robert S. Brummeler on Dec. 7 at 7:30 p.m., in the auditorium of the Karl Richter Community Center in Holly. The program consisted of speakers and tributes to both men. Recipients of the Karl Richter Award and their families were invited to attend the dedication. Both plaques are now displayed outside of the Village offices near the Richter and Purple Heart Displays. The event was open to the public. Karl Richter was a first lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force when he was shot down and killed in July 1967 on his 198th mission over North Viet Nam. He was a graduate of the Air Force Academy and a graduate of Holly schools. Robert S. Brummeler, a graduate of the University of Michigan, was a LT JG in the U.S. Navy during World War II. Brummeler was involved in the Okinawa and Philippines Campaigns. Upon his return from the war, he made his home in Holly. Mr. Brummeler was instrumental in bringing formal ceremonies commemorating Memorial Day to Holly. Approximately 70 people attended.

Notebook on Karl Richter – A notebook from newspaper clippings of Karl Richter’s life was put together by Ray Johnson and Bruce Dryer several years ago. It was recently found and will reside at the HAVRC.

VCAT – We continue to be active at VCAT (Veterans Community Action Teams). Kate Logan visited HAVRC before Christmas.

Wish List – We need a coat rack for visitors’ coats and a clothing rack for donated uniforms. Joe Riker suggested reaching out to theater programs such as Michigan State University.

HAVRC Floor & Back Room – We are delighted that our main floor was mopped and waxed over the Christmas holiday. We are working on emptying the back room & will use this for storage.

Christmas Party – was held December 20 in the HAVRC room and about 30 people attended.

Michigan Veteran Long Term Care Home Potential Opportunity – Several townships in the Wayne/Oakland/Macomb Counties area received letters inquiring about interest in having a Veterans Home in their area; Holly Township Supervisor George Kullis received the letter on December 15, 2017. MVAA and the Federal Government are looking to add more Veteran homes in Michigan and the next Veteran home will be built in either Wayne, Oakland, or Macomb Counties. Joe, Ray, George, Steve Striggow, and others met over the Christmas break to research and answer the multiple page application; deadline was January 3. A 20 acre fairly flat parcel is required in addition to appropriate demographics and locations of various entities.

Veteran Art Show – Paul Dery and Mike Mishler are planning our First 1st Annual Art Fair scheduled to take place in April 2018 at the KRCC from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. All forms of art will be accepted. This event is still in the planning stages with more detail information to follow.

Program at Holly Township Library – Joe has been asked to present a program at the library on February 15 at 6:00 pm. to talk about the Holly Area Veterans’ Resource Center. Benefits and filing claim information will be discussed.

Pure Pro Wrestling – This fund raising event is scheduled to take place on February 17, 2018 at the KRCC gym. Doors open at 6:30 pm and the starting bell will ring at 7:30 pm. Tickets will cost \$5.00 to \$25.00 depending on seat location. Local personalities including “Scrooge”, “Carrie Nation”, and the Holly High School Band Director will be invited to enter the ring. Several people volunteered to ask businesses for sponsorships.

Veteran Expo and Job Fair – we are tentatively scheduling our 2nd Annual Veteran Expo and Job Fair for August 25. The Expo is open to everyone; the mobile Secretary of State Office will be asked to return as well as the Veteran owned Food Truck and many others who attended the Veteran Expo in November. More details later.

Play “Footlocker” - Joe Mishler has written a play that takes one back to the late 1960’s, a time when our country was divided. Joe brings the significance of the Viet Nam war into our hearts and souls with the discovery of a soldier’s footlocker that had been forgotten for many years and the memories tied to it. It is scheduled for October 2018.

Veteran Picnic – tentatively scheduled for September 9.

V.F.W. Flea Market - Usually scheduled in August – we would like to have an information table and sell raffle tickets.

Spot Shooter Bow Fest, Raffle – scheduled for the end of August on Grange Hall Road – we would like to have an information table and sell raffle tickets, items to be determined.

Veterans Day – We will participate in planning for the November 11, 2018 ceremony at Lakeside Cemetery in Holly to be held at 11:00 am.

HAVRC Membership Card Specifics – Art recommended all Membership cards will be numbered and annual dues for the membership cards are “anniversary-to-anniversary”. We will keep track and log each card sold. The money will be used to fund the Scott Dudek Memorial Library.

Viet Nam Veteran Pinning – will take place June 23 at KRCC.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:45 pm.

Meeting Dates for 2018: February 7, March 7, April 4, May 2, June 6, July 11, August 1, September 5, October 3, November 7, and December 5

Next Meeting February 7, 2018 at KRCC in the Holly Area Veterans' Resource Center at 10:00 am. Everyone is invited.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ina J. Golden

HAVRC Secretary

Upcoming Dates to Remember

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event & Place</u>	<u>Time</u>
February 15	Program at Holly Township Library – Joe	6:00 pm
February 17	Pure Pro Wrestling – KRCC Gym	6:30 pm
April	First Annual Veteran Art Show	10:00 am – 5:00 pm
June 23	Viet Nam Veteran Pinning - KRCC	TBD
August	V.F.W. Flea Market – Info Table	TBD
August	Spot Shooter Bow Fest – Info Table	TBD
August 25	Veteran Expo and Job Fair	TBD
September 9	Veterans Picnic - Lakeside Park	TBD
October	Play – “Footlocker”	TBD
November 11	Veterans Day – Lakeside Cemetery, Holly	11:00 am
December 19	Christmas Party – HAVRC Room, KRCC	11:00 am