

CLAYTON COUNTY VETERANS ADVISORY BOARD (CCVAB) MEETING MINUTES

Prepared and Submitted by Wilbert Jordan, Secretary

2:25 PM Tuesday, April 24, 2018

VFW Post 6330, 732 Veterans Parkway, Jonesboro, GA. 30238

- I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order, by Chairman of the Clayton County Veterans Advisory Board (CCVAB), Clarence Burnough, at 2:25 P.M.
- II. Roll Call: CCVAB Secretary, Wilbert Jordan, called the roll. Present: Wilbert Jordan, Kenneth Gilmore, Leonard Morgan, Clarence Burnough and Paul Winfrey; Absent: Paul Winfrey and Preston McGee.
- III. Minutes from March 27, 2018: Minutes were read by Secretary Wilbert Jordan. Leonard Morgan made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Kenneth Gilmore seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- IV. Old Business:
 - 1) Community Stakeholders Veterans Support Group: After Action Report – Each Board member gave a report on the March 30, 2018 meeting. Wilbert Jordan – Compile a list of community stakeholders and the services they can offer; using the stakeholders who attended this meeting as a starting point. Clarence Burnough – Hold follow up meeting with stakeholders who attended; to develop a Veterans Community Support List to give to Clayton County Board of Commissioners. Kenneth Gilmore – The Clayton County Board of Commissioners needs to start putting the information on the TV station that the CCVAB has been and continues to send them. This information is beneficial to our veterans. This information is needed by the veterans to assist them in getting the help they need from the VA and other organizations that support veterans and their families.
 - 2) Grants: Kenneth Gilmore – at the March 30, 2018 meeting, Clayton County Library System offered to work with CCVAB to get grants to fund programs to help veterans. They already have Grant writers who are willing to work with CCVAB.
 - 3) Employment for Veterans: Kenneth Gilmore is still working on putting the job prospects in a format that he can submit to the Commissioners to put on the County television station.
 - 4) Release of Incarcerated Veterans: Discussed at Stakeholders meeting on March 30, 2018 – Representatives from the Courts, DA's office and stakeholders present said they will come up with programs to assist released veterans – transportation, housing, jobs, food pantries.
 - 5) VetFest – Health Fair, Car Show , Benefit Assistance: tentative dates: Aug. 25th, Sept. 8th, or 9th. Sponsored by Visions Outreach – still looking for a location so date can be finalized.
 - 6) Veteran Breakfast: Visions Outreach will host this event at the Riverdale Towne Center, Nov. 10th. Vietnam era veterans, who did not receive Gov. Deal's certificate, will receive them. Leonard wants CCVAB to assist in getting the word out to veterans. It will be helpful to put this on TV Channel 23.
 - 7) Breakfast for Veterans and their families, hosted by Visions Outreach, at Dave and Busters, in Gwinnett County, on Dec. 22nd
 - 8) Bonding Classes for ex-offenders: Leonard Morgan – Location of classes : Department of Labor, 1630 Phoenix Blvd., College Park, GA. 30349.
 - 9) Kenneth Gilmore said the CCVAB needs to compile a list of businesses, operating in Clayton County, that give hiring priority to veterans. Businesses that hire veterans and ex-offenders: Fresh Express, Morrow, GA.; Publix – most locations; Farmers Market, Forest Park location; veterans – Home Depot.
 - 10) Invite Veterans Affairs Advisory Board of DeKalb County: Wilbert Jordan was asked to invite them to pick a date from the following meeting dates: May 15th, June 12th, Aug. 14th, Sept. 11th, Oct. 9th, Nov. 6th, Dec. 11th.

- V. New Business: 1) Veterans Court: Wilbert Jordan sent a copy of “County Applies for Grant to Create Veterans Treatment Court”, an article in The Henry County Times* to Courtney Rushin, Assistant Clerk of the Commission, on April 5, 2018. CCVAB agreed that the Clayton County Board of Commissioners should take action to bring a Veterans Treatment Court Program to Clayton County. We also agreed that the Commissioners should send a representative to Henry County Board of Commissioners.**
- 2) Honor Vietnam Era veterans: Leonard Morgan – Clayton County needs to do something to honor our veterans who served during the Vietnam Era. These veterans were treated very badly! They are aging. They need to be thanked for their service. The County can ask the businesses to assist them in honoring them, by giving the special discounts, etc.
- 3) Unity Foundation – Benefit Assistance Workshop – Lake Ridge Village Clubhouse, 1200 Lake Ridge Parkway, Riverdale, GA. 30274 - Fri., April 20, 2018 – Chairman Burnough and Secretary Jordan attended. They were accompanied by VFW Post 6330 Auxiliary Patriotic Instructor Deanna Jordan. The purpose of attending was to gather information on the Veterans Affairs claims process; and how to appeal a denied claim.
- VI. Next meeting: We will hold our next meeting at the Jonesboro VFW Post 6330, located at 732 Veterans Parkway, Jonesboro, GA. 30238. Chairman Clarence Burnough set the meeting time for 2:00 PM on Tues., May 15, 2018. Chairman Burnough asked Wilbert Jordan to again coordinate the meeting with the Post. Mr. Jordan agreed.
- VI. Other Business: There being no further business to discuss, Chairman Burnough called for a motion to adjourn. Leonard Morgan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kenneth Gilmore seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- VII. Adjournment: The Clayton County Veterans’ Advisory Board Meeting of April 24, 2018 was adjourned at 4:12 P.M.

*copy of article is attached

**A better alternative may be to invite Cobb County Veterans Court representative to speak to Clayton County Board of Commissioners to further explain the benefits of this Court; with an emphasis on how this would save the County money. Cobb County already has a working Veterans Treatment Program.

CORRECTION: Paul Winfrey was absent.