



CLAYTON COUNTY VETERAN'S ADVISORY BOARD (CCVAB) REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2022, 6 P.M.

Meeting Date, Time, and Location:

Thursday, August 18, 2022, 1800 hrs.
Zoom Meeting

Roll Call – Officers In Attendance/Absent

Present Members In Attendance – 5

Sparkle Adams, Chairwoman
Kenneth Gilmore, Vice Chair/Support
Pearla Glanton, Secretary
Diane Hanna
Herbert Ward

Absence

Clarence Burnough, Vice (Unexcused) Chair/Operations
Rev Thomas Holt, Chaplain (Excused)
Kenneth Gilmore, Vice Chair/Support

Guest In Attendance

Kathleen Harris, Veterans Treatment Court (VTC)

Call to Order:

Chairwoman Adams called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.
Diane Hanna opened the meeting with a prayer
Chairwoman Adams welcomed members and guest

Approval of Minutes – Chairwoman Adams mentioned that we had some incomplete minutes because some of the stuff that was spoken of was not on there to include the adjournment and a couple of gaps, so she asked that we review and accept the correction so we can send the minutes to the Commissioners. Diane Hanna motioned to adopt the Agenda and seconded by Herbert Ward; thus, the minutes were unanimously approved and accepted with necessary corrections.

Discussion:

- Collaborations
 - Chairwoman Adams had a one on one meeting with Vice Chair/Support Kenneth – talked about getting the various organizations that were on the vision board – get in contact with the organizations and get a summary on what they're doing so they could bring it back to the board and move forward. In the meeting it was said that: Chairwoman Adams said she was going to take the City Manager, the chamber of commerce and the Veterans Treatment Corp.
 - Chairwoman Adams asked Diane if she could contact the NABMW and the Veterans Helping Veterans and Clarence with DAV; Kenny with the VFW and Clayton State Veterans , American Legion, JROTC
 - Herbert mentioned that his strongest is the Veterans Benefits and a lot of outreach with hiring and ministries. Diane volunteered to get with World Changers to see exactly what they do for the Veterans because that's the church she attends.

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- Chairwoman Adams mentioned that Education, Employment and Housing falls under Benefits; we can bring in more people to work on those committees. Herbert said that all three are already covered and taken care of. Chairwoman Adams said she just wants to put all the resources together so that way she can just go straight to the Advisory board and refer them out; she wants to be more effective in helping Veterans who needs help so we're not all over the place. Basically, how can we (Advisory board) refer these Veterans to these organizations you speak of? Herbert knows the lady down the hallway he works at that is familiar with housing and employment is right down the hall from him. He will get contact information for Chairwoman Adams. How can we bring those resources into play?
- Chairwoman Adams wants education on benefits; doesn't want to be misleading and help with the Education portion. The VA handles the education portion. Herbert said there's plenty of information out there and Chairwoman Adams said, that's what we're trying to get to – to create on our website for Veterans easy access. Diane suggested to add a link on website page on education but Chairwoman Adams said we don't want to get too entrenched. We're an Advisory Board – nothing else nothing more. All we doing is "information and referrals". Just keep it simple. Again, let's just come up with the resources for the website. No person's name – just the agency's contact information - Example: Department of Labor or Chamber of Commerce and their direct information.
- Diane will connect with Employment and get resources. Herbert will connect with Housing and Education and they will get back with Chairwoman Adams on contacts for website. Herbert said he has all of that in hand (Education, Employment and Housing). Chairwoman Adams said Diane and Chris will handle Employment and Herbert will handle Education in benefits.
- Pearla asked do we already have a website and Chairwoman Adams said no, she has spoken to several Commissioners and Detrick for a page on their website. Still no response. We need to get on their Agenda to request a page on the county's website.
- RET Col Kathleen Harris, Coordinator of Veterans Treatment Court – They are under Judge Robert Mac and meet every Wednesday. This program is for Veterans who are incarcerated or coming up of anything that they were found guilty of. It's a 15 months program, cost is \$1500. Incarcerated Veterans can apply. The other side of the program: Long term program – it's an addiction program. They're sent off for a year or so to get a full pledge treatment. Kathleen is also the Coordinator for the Mentors to help out with the participants of the court. They are required to attend a five phase program that is laid out for them. Each participant should have two mentors to help them with the reconnecting of family, medical addictions, communications or anything they need help with. Participants are also drug tested, home visits for drugs and curfews. And the participants have a community project that they

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need to do on last phase. They graduate as well. It's difficult to find females in the program. Georgia has 18 VTC's. It is not sure that this is on the court or Clayton County websites.

- Kathleen Harris also spoke briefly about the National Association of the Military Black Women; just got through with the conference. They started off with 21 ladies in Virginia (World War II Ladies). In Clayton County, where the chapter is located at – 9 different projects going on now – JROTC program, senior assistance living program, veterans parade, festivals, talented program, etc. The women history month is in March. Diane will be the contact person to report to the CCVAB. Diane suggested proclamation from the commissioner's and the governor's office. Chairwoman Adams suggested to combine the women history month and the capital veteran visit in conjunction of the veteran of the month: collaborate with the senior vet all in May.

- Veteran of the month – Alan Vigil in September, Leo recommended by Ward and Diana suggested Tax Commissioner Terry Baskin and S. Buford – Safety Officer.
- By Laws must be reviewed in the next two weeks; signed off and send to Chairwoman Adams so she can send to the Commissioners – get together and have a sign day
- Meeting location and zoom account is needed. Chairwoman Adams is trying to connect with the commissioners to continue on paying rent so we can meet together with other Veterans, board advisors to help out.
- Kenny was going to talk about the budget line item to promote ourselves on website, brochures and business cards, but he was not available.
- Meeting was adjourned at 7:09p.m (1 hour 8 mins and 19 seconds)