



CLAYTON COUNTY VETERAN'S ADVISORY BOARD (CCVAB)
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 2022, 6 P.M.
CLAYTON COUNTY BATTLECREEK LIBRARY

Meeting Date, Time and Location
 Thursday, June 16, 2022, 6:00 p.m.
 Clayton County Battlecreek Library

Roll Call – Officers in Attendance/Absent

Present Members In Attendance – 5

Sparkle Adams, Chairwoman
 Clarence Burnough, Vice Chair/Operations
 Rev. Thomas Holt, Chaplain
 Diane Hanna
 Herbert Ward

Absence

Kenneth Gilmore, Vice Chair/Support (excused)
 Pearla Glanton, Secretary (unexcused)

Guests in Attendance 2

Brenda Pridgen
 Belinda Eleby

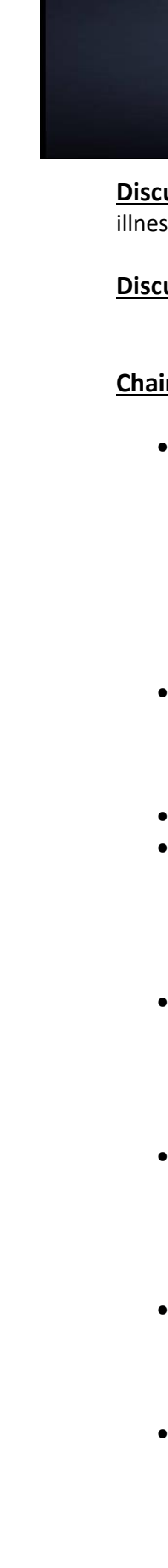
Call to Order:

- Sparkle Adams, Chairwoman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- Rev. Thomas Holt opened the meeting with prayer.
- Chairwoman Adams welcomed members and guest.
- Approval of Minutes – Chairwoman Adams gave members an opportunity to read the minutes and asked if there were any additions, deletions, or corrections. Hearing none, a motion was made by Clarence Burnough and seconded by Diane Hanna to approve the minutes. The vote was favorably unanimous; thus, the minutes were approved.

Vacancies: None. Rev. Holt has submitted his resignation to allow for another member to join that can contribute more time and skills to the board. He has agreed to stay on as a Board Consultant and Chaplain. His request has been submitted to the Commissioners.

Discussion: Vice President/Operations Clarence Burnough:

- He received an erroneous property tax bill requesting an outrageous amount of money and wondered if other veterans in Clayton County have been assessed the same. He also talked about the taxes on the purchase of new vehicles and homestead exemptions.
- He suggested that each person on the Board should contact their Commissioner's to find out what land is available in their district to secure office, events, and meeting space for veteran organizations operating in Clayton County. This would allow for all organizations to operate in one central location and provide wrap-around services to veterans in one central location.
- Working with the Clayton County Veterans Treatment Court, Judge Mack asked that he spearhead the planning of a "Coming Home" parade for the Clayton County Vietnam Veterans for 2023. These veterans never received the appreciation of a parade or acknowledgement.




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Discussion: Vice President/Support Kenneth Gilmore – Officially excused from the meeting due to illness and surgery.

Discussion: Secretary's Report – NONE (Secretary was not present).

Chairwoman's Report: Sparkle Adams

- **Discussion** – Collaborations, Adams met with Belinda Eleby from the Clayton County Library regarding their initiative with veterans and how to work together. Adams talked with Charlie Pugh with the GA Dept. of Labor, and Herbert Ward with the Georgia Department of Veterans Affairs about collaborating to get more updated information to our veterans via the library, social media, and the County's website. Members of the Board provided contact information for the various military organizations operating in Clayton County to be invited to our next meeting. They will be able to share their signature annual events and possible collaborations. Mrs. Belinda Eleby will provide the contact information for the Purple Hearts.
- **Discussion** – Veteran of the Month, Adams spoke with Tori Strawter-Tanks about the CCVAB's role and responsibilities regarding veterans and veteran programs in the County and how there can be an amicable collaboration and division of duties. Diane Hanna recommended Charlie Scandrett, Rev. Holt recommended Arthur Prather, Herb Ward recommended Leo Ott.
- **Discussion** – Board Appointments and Advisors (Diversity Inclusion) needs to be addressed.
- **Discussion** – Roles and Responsibilities (Committee Assignments). We need to develop committees to build a strong VAB to meet the needs of Clayton County Veterans and Veteran Organizations operating efficiently and effectively in the Metro Area. We need to have measurable inputs/outputs/and outcomes and measurably define our effectiveness in the community.
- **Discussion** – Information and Referral Resources, Herb Ward provided the Board with copies of a resource list provided by the State of GA and a publication from the Georgia Department of Veterans Service entitled State Benefits for Georgia Veterans, A summary for veterans and their families. He also talked about the process for procuring an ID card and vacation locations that are provided to veterans.
- **Discussion** – Bylaws still needs to be submitted to the Commissioners and signed. Chairwoman Adams said that she is waiting to hear back from COO Detrick Sanford. Mr. Sanford stated to Chairwoman Adams that he is going to have the County Attorneys to review the bylaws for corrections, additions, or deletions and will get back to her. No update on the status of the bylaws.
- **Discussion** – Meeting and Office Location at The Plaza Building needs to be solidified for consistency and visualization in the community. Also, Vice Chair Clarence Burnough suggested to contact our commissioner to get them to look at the Land Bank Roster and procure properties available for the CCVAB to operate and service veterans.
- **Discussion** – Chairwoman Adams will contact Tori Strawter-Tanks to get a sample of their budget and line items to create a budget for VAB to cover expenses for marketing, operations, and support.



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- **Discussion** – Website and Social Media presence, discussion was held about who would spearhead and monitor these tasks as well as who would provide administrative support and resources.
- **Discussion** was held about the members availability to attend our next meeting date scheduled for Thursday, July 21, 2022, at 6 p.m. Since most will be unavailable, Clarence Burnough made a motion to move the meeting to Thursday, July 14, 2022, at 6 p.m., at our office in The Plaza Building, 1590 Adamson Parkway, Suite 140, Morrow, GA 30260. The motion was seconded by Rev. Thomas Holt. The voting was unanimous.
- **Diane Hanna suggested that a proclamation be issued by the commissioners to acknowledge Veteran Women's Day on June 12th. Chairwoman Adams suggested that the National Association of Black Military Women should be the organization to push that initiative.**
- **Calendar of Events**
 - **CCVAB Regular Business Meeting – Thursday, July 14, 2022, 6:00 p.m.**
 - **CCVAB Regular Business Meeting – August 18, 2022, 6:00 p.m.**
 - **CCVAB Regular Business Meeting – September 15, 2022, 6:00 p.m.**
 - **CCVAB Regular Business Meeting – October 20, 2022, 6:00 p.m.**
 - **VETERAN'S DAY – November 11, 2022**
 - **CCVAB Regular Business Meeting – November 17, 2022, 6:00 p.m.**
 - **CCVAB Regular Business Meeting – December 15, 2022, 6:00 p.m.**
- Commitment of Service – If you relocate or unable to serve, please inform us.
- Questions/Alibies – None

Meeting Adjourned – Approximately 7:15 p.m.