

**NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP VETERANS ADVISORY COMMISSION**  
**Meeting Minutes,**  
**Monday, November 20, 2023, 7:00 PM**

**Members Present:**

Kristin Reilly  
Wendell Rich  
Dave Reese  
Erik Saracino  
Michael Pinciotti  
Thomas Yaegel

**Members Absent:**

John Colbourn

**Others Present:**

Paula Gasper - Liaison  
Lisa Russo - Administration Liaison  
Mike Clark  
Dave Parry  
Guest Speaker: Matt Allen, Director of Veteran Affairs, Doylestown, PA

**MEETING CALL TO ORDER – 7:00 pm**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – Oct 16, 2023, Unanimous consent.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

- Veterans Day feedback (township and high school events)
  - Assign POCs to citation recipients.
  - Designate a POC to communicate with government officials.
  - Letter of appreciation recognizing high school band participants.
  - Erik Saracino introduced NASA officials to the Council Rock South (CRS) High School HUNCH and Radio Clubs.
- VAC fundraiser held at Giuseppe's Pizza, Richboro, PA, raised over \$5K. The donations collected will be used to purchase wreaths for the "Hometown Hero's" ceremony on December 2, 2023.
  - VAC will send thank you cards to Giuseppe's Pizza and the Richboro Beer Store for their generous contributions.
- Kristin Reilly plans to meet with CRS officials regarding collaborative initiatives (TBD).
- Kristin Reilly and Erik Saracino continue to collaborate with Kymberly Diglia and students from the Veterans Service Club (VSC) at Council Rock North High School (CRN), Newtown, PA, on MSgt Elwell's dedication ceremony at CRN (TBD: 2024).

- Township Veteran Repository
  - Talks continue as members provided recommendation to revise the graphics initially submitted to the township's newsletter.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Matt Allen discussed veteran programs offered in Bucks County. In addition, he stated the VA continues to search for new recruitment ideas intended to increase healthcare enrollment statistics for veterans age 50+.
  - The VAC proposed hosting a Q&A event with Allen and the VA staff possibly in 2024. Allen stated the VA would like to participate once a date is finalized for the event.
- Dave Parry discussed his veteran owned company, Techline Trauma, Willow Grove, PA.
- Lisa Russo recommended participants review the VAC's webpage hosted on the township website and provide feedback at the next meeting.
- Submissions for the Northampton Township Newsletter are due in Jan 2024.

#### **REMAINING 2023 VAC SPONSORED EVENT**

- **HOMETOWN HEROS WREATH LAYING CEREMONY: Saturday, December 2, 11am @ Union Cemetery, 209 Almshouse Rd, Richboro, PA**
  - M/C: Tom Yaegel replaced John Coulbourn
  - Guest Speaker: Jason Dowd, Tri Hampton EMS
  - Singer: Lisa Gardner
  - Chaplain: Wendell Rich (Acting)
  - Color Guard/Firing Squad: Patriot Det. 1230, Marine Corps League
  - Bagpiper: Confirmed
  - Bugler: N/A
  - Sound System: Confirmed, Tom Yaegel's son.
  - Wreaths: 375 with red bows & delivery – Confirmed and paid. Ed London Wreath. Bob will coordinate delivery with Kristin.

**Meeting Adjourned: 8:15 pm**

**Respectively Submitted**

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**Erik Saracino, Secretary**

**Next Meeting: Monday, December 18, 2023, was cancelled.**