

West Suburban Veterans District – March 10, 2016

Location: Wellesley Town Hall, Great Hall

Board Members Present: Kate Fitzpatrick, Hans Larsen, John Senchyshyn and Donna VanderClock

Others present: Chris Coleman, Sarada Kalpee, Sally Rose and Stanley Spear

Call to order: Meeting called to order at 4:00 pm.

Business:

1. Citizen Speak

None

2. Minutes

Upon a motion made by Mr. Senchyshyn and seconded by Ms. VanderClock, the Board voted (4-0-0) to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2015 meeting. Mr. Larsen welcomed Ms. Kalpee to her first Board meeting and welcomed back Mr. Spear.

3. FY 16 Budget Status

Mr. Larsen said that the personal services for FY16 are under budget by \$21,380. After discussion it was decided to allocate, by population, the \$21,380 to each community's Ch. 115 accounts. Ms. Rose will update the FY17 draft budget to reflect this allocation and Mr. Larsen will disseminate it to the Board for their approval. Mr. Larsen asked about the sheet on 2015 VA Expenditures for WSVD communities. Ms. Rose had compiled this sheet from information sent by Congressman Jim McGovern. The reason this is important is that VA money received by our residents can reduce the amount of Ch. 115 benefits they may be receiving. Mr. Spear talked about a Vietnam Veteran with whom Matt Ching had worked who had PTSD and hearing loss. He was receiving 10% disability benefits. Because of his PTSD and with Mr. Ching's assistance, he qualified for 100% benefits through the VA and was taken off of Ch. 115 benefits.

4. Director's Update

Starting March 15th Ms. Kalpee will be away for three weeks on active duty at Fort Devens. During her absence, Mr. McGillivray will be covering office hours in Wayland and Weston on Wednesdays and in Needham on Thursdays. Ms. Kalpee distributed a sheet with the proposed office hours to begin Monday, April 11th. The office hours will be:

Monday: from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
[Wellesley Town Hall](#)
525 Washington Street, Wellesley

Tuesday: from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
[Wayland Town Building](#)
41 Cochituate Road, Wayland

Wednesday: Morning hours from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Weston Town Hall, 11 Town House RD, Weston, MA

Afternoon hours from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p. m.
Weston Council on Aging, 20 Alphabet Lane, Weston, MA

Evening Hours 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m
Weston Town Hall, 11 Town House RD, Weston, MA
Only on the following dates: 4/13, 4/27, 5/11, 5/25, 6/8, 6/22

Thursday: Morning hours from 9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Center at the Heights (COA)
300 Hillside Ave, Needham Heights, MA

Afternoon hours from 1:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Needham Town Hall
1471 Highland Ave, Needham, MA

Friday: from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Wellesley Town Hall
525 Washington Street, Wellesley

Ms. Kalpee and Mr. Spear will alternate covering Wayland's office hours. Ms. Kalpee, in her outreach efforts, is hoping to develop interest groups such as having Weston high school art students run paint nights at the Weston COA or soliciting a yoga instructor to volunteer his or her time to run evening classes at Needham's Center at the Heights. Ms. Kalpee also wants to organize a running group in Needham. She hopes to find a veteran to coordinate this group. At a family meet and greet in Wayland Ms Kalpee plans to have someone cook pancakes to feed to the kids while she meets with the adults. Ms. Kalpee was talking about starting to keep case notes, which Board members would have access to, in order to track veteran contacts and the results of that contact. Mr. Larsen and Ms. Kalpee are going to meet with Mr. Brian DuPont, Wellesley's IT Director, to discuss Office 365 and Google Docs and what would be the best platform for maintaining case notes on District veterans. Maintaining security of information is of extreme importance.

5. Old/New Business

Ms. Rose reminded Board members to look at the WSVD website, on which Ms Kalpee has added a link to Facebook, to read about events taking place and information of particular interest to veterans. Mr. Coleman said he'd appreciate receiving email updates regarding events taking place within the District. Ms Kalpee will send out emails about upcoming events.

Mr. Spear talked about a CD he'd been given by Wellesley's Town Clerk that lists veterans by date of birth. This information will be helpful when contacting Veterans from a particular age

bracket. From this disc Mr. Spear learned that of Wellesley's 811 Veterans, 685 are 65 and older. Of the 126 Veterans that are 64 and under: 41 are between 56-64, 48 are between 46-55, 23 are between 36-45, and 14 are 35 and under. Mr. Spear would like to receive similar information regarding veterans from Needham, Wayland and Weston.

The Board agreed that the next meeting will be on Thursday, June 16th at 4:00 p.m. in Wellesley's Great Hall.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.