

MEETING OF THE ONEIDA COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION

Held: Monday, December 19, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present: Roger Freund (Chairman), Brian Jopek, Mark Espeseth, Pearl Fessenden, and Jason Dailey (ACVSO)

The following new matters were taken up, to wit:

Roger Freund called the meeting to order in committee room #2 on the second floor of the Oneida County courthouse at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was properly posted, the news media was notified and pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, is handicapped accessible.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The agenda was reviewed. Motion made by Brian Jopek, seconded by Mark Espeseth, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

The minutes from the September 19, 2022 meeting were reviewed. Motion made by Brian Jopek, seconded by Mark Espeseth, to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

There was no public comment.

At the September 19, 2022 Veterans Commission meeting, Roger Freund announced he was not going to request reappointment on the Veterans Commission and would step down when his current term expired in January 2023. With County Board Chairman Scott Holewinski's verbal approval, the Veterans Service Officer recommended Oneida County veteran Pearl Fessenden to replace Roger on the Commission. Motion by Brian Jopek, seconded by Roger Freund, to recommend appointing Pearl to replace Roger. Motion carried.

Since Roger Freund was the chairman of the Veterans Commission, discussion was held about assigning a new chairman. Motion by Mark Espeseth, seconded by Roger Freund, to appoint Brian Jopek as the new chairman. Motion carried.

The Veterans Service Office and Veterans Commission vouchers were reviewed. Motion made by Mark Espeseth, seconded by Brian Jopek, to approve the vouchers. Motion carried.

The donation account was reviewed. Since the last meeting, three donations were received in the amount of \$1,332.32. The donation account has a balance of \$16,233.01. Motion made by Mark

Espeseth, seconded by Brian Jopek, to approve the donation account report. Motion carried.

Minutes from the October 3 and November 7 Northwoods Honor Guard Committee meeting were presented containing updated information on the status of the NHG.

Minutes from the October 4 and November 1, Northwoods Veterans Homestead meetings were presented containing updated information on the status of the NVH.

The ACVSO updated the Commission with the status of the 2022 budget.

The ACVSO updated the Commission on the PACT Act, which is one of the biggest benefit expansions done by the VA in its history.

There was no public comment.

Items for the next agenda:

- Update on Northwoods Honor Guard
- Update on Northwoods Veterans Homestead
- WDVA Grant application

The next meeting will be held on March 20, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. in conference room #1 in the courthouse. Motion made by Brian Jopek, seconded by Mark Espeseth, to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 a.m. Motion carried.

Chairman: _____

Secretary: _____