



Middle Township Veterans Advisory Board Agenda

Township Hall
33 Mechanic Street
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210

E-Mail: Chairperson - mahardenlozier@aol.com

Phone: 609-602-9946 Fax: 609-536-2617

MEETING DATE/TIME: February 22, 2017, 7:00pm Sharp

LOCATION: Township Hall 2nd Floor Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER – Welcome

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Maureen Harden-Lozier, Ed Dillio, Robert Matthews, Stew Merrick, Howard Trout, and Krystal Arana.

Mayor Clark sat in on the meeting.

FLAG SALUTE

UPDATE CONTACT INFORMATION – Concurrent with other Agenda items

GUEST SPEAKER – None

DISCUSS AND ESTABLISH BOARD OBJECTIVES – Establish Board Objectives and Goals – 2017

OLD BUSINESS

Follow-Up – Questions and Comments Regarding February’s Meeting

Date for Veterans Forum – Postponed – Conflict with Schedule – Congressman LoBiondo’s VA Event

Maureen Harden-Lozier:

- *Congressman Lobiondo and office holding similar event at Atlantic Cape Community College in Cape May Court House on April 29th at 1:00pm.*
- *Has been offered to participate; would like to board members to partake with an informational booth.*
- *Would appreciate the presence of the members; opportunity to obtain additional exposure to the board.*
- *Allyn to acquire alternative dates for the board’s event.*

Committee – Schedule Working Meetings

Maureen Harden-Lozier:

- *Would like to schedule working meeting once the date for the event is set rather than take the time from the board's regular meetings.*

Establish Agenda for Veterans Forum – Working Document

Maureen Harden-Lozier:

- *Agenda will not be established until date for event is selected.*
- *Would like to observe event being held at Atlantic Cape Community College.*
- *Spoke with a woman who works for the VFW Auxiliary; mentioned she is dependent of a veteran; familiar with the VA healthcare system; encourages people to log on to <https://www.myhealth.va.gov/>; ability to track claims, doctor's appointment, etc.*
- *Would like to include lady as a presenter in the board's event; seems to have a wealth of information regarding health; has multiple contacts.*

Follow-Up – Invitations for Guest Speakers

Maureen Harden-Lozier:

- *To be discussed at a later date.*
- *Will advise presenters they will be contacted once the new date for the event is set.*

Genesis Court House Center – Mobile Veterans Outreach Van – March 30th, 2017 – 10:00am-2:00pm

Maureen Harden-Lozier:

- *Board has been invited to co-host event by Admissions Director Patricia Preston.*
- *Planning on attending and setting up an information booth.*
- *As information is received, it will be shared with members via email.*
- *Event being held on a Thursday in case anyone who wishes to attend has to take off work.*

Terms of Members – Follow-Up

Maureen Harden-Lozier:

- *To inform members who did not meet 60% attendance requirement in 2016 of replacement on board; has letter drafted to be sent.*

Veterans Court – Update

Maureen Harden-Lozier:

- *Provided handout.*
- *To forward article published on January 19, 2017 once found.*
- *Would like to share article at forum.*

Homelessness Stand Down – May 17, 2017 – Atlantic City – All Wars Memorial – 10:00am – 3:00pm

Maureen Harden-Lozier:

- *Provided handout.*
- *Reminded everyone of event set to take place during the week on a Wednesday.*
- *American Legion hosting along with many other organizations.*
- *Would like someone to attend and take notes if possible.*
- *Transportation provided to veterans who want to attend.*

Suggestions to Improve Veteran Registration – Updates

Stew Merrick:

- *Facebook page; explained benefits.*
- *Reaches a range of people.*

Vets Returning from Deployment – Allyn – Update

Maureen Harden-Lozier:

- *Allyn out sick; usually keeps the board up to date; will provide any additional information when received.*

Mobile Veterans Outreach Van – Future Dates

Maureen Harden-Lozier:

- *Bill keeps the board up to date concerning dates and times the van will be in the area.*
- *Board advertises event and helps make local veterans aware of occasion.*

Fins Sunday Social – Burke Motor Group – DAV fundraiser – March 12, 2017 – 10:30am – 2:30pm

Maureen Harden-Lozier:

- *No fee.*

Mayor Clark:

- *Holds fundraising events for non-profit organizations throughout the community located in Cape May County.*
- *Held an event for the Nature Center the week prior.*
- *Part of the proceeds benefit the organization holding the event that week.*

NEW BUSINESS

Wilmington VA Express – Atlantic County and Cumberland County – Transportation System

Maureen Harden-Lozier:

- *The Wilmington Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center provides transportation to Veterans who choose to receive care at that location, and would like to use the VA Express.*
- *Monday – Friday; excluding holidays.*

- *Reservation needed.*
- *Veterans from Cape May County can access VA Express from any location currently available.*
- *Free service; comfortable and safer than other alternatives.*
- *Cape May County looking to purchase new facility for clinic; to be announced April 29th.*

Women Veterans Conference – March 11, 2017 – 9am – 3pm – South River, New Jersey

Maureen Harden-Lozier:

- *Limited availability.*
- *Would like to attend; will share with Allyn.*
- *Theme for the New Jersey American Legion Convention Parade this year in Wildwood is “Honoring Women in Uniform.”*

Boots to Business – American Legion Post 198 – Tuesday, April 4, 2017 – 8:00am – 5:00pm

Maureen Harden-Lozier:

- *Syracuse University Business School provides a course for Veterans who either want to start their own business or reboot a current business.*
- *Usually about twenty-five seats available.*
- *Breakfast and lunch provided at no extra cost.*
- *Held throughout the state of New Jersey; this event is for Cape May County.*

Any Other New Business

Maureen Harden-Lozier:

- *Blood drive being held at the American Legion on March 4th.*
- *Ten people registered; goal of 25 to be able to make a donation.*
- *People who donate receive a \$5 Amazon card; incentive.*

Next Meeting Date

Wednesday, March 22, 2017.

QUESTIONS: N/A

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS – Introductions

ADJOURN 8:06pm

ROLES/RESPONSIBILITIES:

Minutes – Krystel Arana

Time Keeper – Allyn Penkethman