



Matthews Veterans Advisory Committee



Matthews Veterans Advisory Committee

February 5th, 2020

Minutes

Chairperson Tom Cannon called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM at Matthews Town Hall in Jourdan Room.

Quorum: A quorum was established. Members present were: Charleen Thompson, Larry Stawicki, Fred Baylor, Michael Vento, Jim Thurman, Peter Chryst, James Fuller, and Tom Cannon. Members not present were: Jack Santaniello, Mike Kipp, and James Munoz. James Fuller was welcomed as an MVAC member.

Guests welcomed: Bill and Beth Campbell (Town residents), Doug Rose (Town resident) and Marl Tofano (Town resident).

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all. The Moment of Reflection focused on the invasion of Iwo Jima 75 years ago this month and the 8000 Marines who lost their lives.

Minutes Approval: The minutes for the January 8th, 2020. Were approved by unanimous vote with the Chair making the motion.

Old Business:

1. Jack Santaniello had arranged the Town to write a check from MVAC funds for \$900 to support Queen City Honor Flight. The Chair has the check and will get it to Niko Iannelli.

New Business:

1. Service Flag Project: Display from Fire Station to Kristopher's for Memorial Day week and Veterans Day week.

a. Purchase four sets of flags which is a total of 24 to include POW/MIA flag. Condor cost is \$965 and Amazon is about \$200. Last month we saw both and found the Condor supplied the better quality. They were made in Virginia and



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not foreign produced. Mark Tofano graciously volunteered to pay the difference in the two. The Condor supply was moved and approved.

b. Theresa showed a bracket proposed by Leith Fitzpatrick to attach to a wooden piece that is affixed to the light pole. She will obtain a cost for the 24 flags and let us know before the next Town Council meeting. The use of the bracket design was moved and approved by the MVAC.

c. Assuming the bracket fits within MVAC budget, Tom and Peter to brief the Mayor and Town Council on the 24th.

2. Stepping Stone project. Investigation of the vision and scope continue by Michael and Charleen. They will meet with Corey King to see if this is a viable project for the Town in one of the Parks.

3. Flying the Colors for Veteran of the Year. Charleen reported that Woodmen of the World organization will provide a 5 x 8' US Colors to be flown for a day at Matthews Town Hall and then ceremoniously given to Matthews Veteran of the Year and to the Queen City honor Flight honoree. This was moved by Charleen and approved by MVAC vote. This must go to Town Council for approval.

4. Publicity for Veteran of the Year and other MVAC projects or recommendations should go through Maureen Keith. This includes advertising our meeting schedule via Matthews Mint Hill Weekly. We also believe we can use Renee Garner, Town Commissioner, via the Beacon.

5. Projects and activities for FY-2021: Further discussions on this:

- a. Veteran of the Year.
- b. Honor Flight funding for one Matthews resident.
- c. Flying Service Flags for two national holiday weeks.
- d. Fly Colors for a day at Town Hall.
- e. Support Memorial Day and Veterans Day event led by American Legion.
- f. Stepping Stone project if Town agrees as viable in a Park.

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g. Keep two Veterans Information Display Cases filled.

h. Reprint Ten Reasons to Hire a Veteran.

6. Criteria for approving new MVAC members: The Town had asked all advisory committees to state how they wished to approve potential new applicants: by full advisory committee or a small leadership group with the Town Liaison. Final approval still belongs to the Town Mayor and Commissioners. MVAC discussed this briefly. It was moved by Larry and voted on to continue our past procedure to send the application to all MVAC members, discuss it and interview the candidate at the next meeting and then to vote with all members participating. This has been sent back to the Town.

7. The Chair observed the meeting to be very energetic with participation by all hands.

8. The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:30 PM. Next MVAC meeting is March 4th at 7 PM at Town Hall.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Cannon".

Tom Cannon

Chair MVAC