Southfield Veterans' Commission

Serving all Vets

Minutes: August 11, 2008

Present:

Commissioners:	Dan Brightwell, Tim Wirkus, Felix Seldon, Ethel Grossman, Andy Davis
Excused:	Bill Burrnet, Gregory Pulliam
Professional Staff:	Bryan Jarrell (excused)
Volunteers & Visitors:	none

Call to Order (Dan Brightwell) at 6:37PM, Parks & Recreation Bldg, Room 111, with Pledge of Allegiance.

Meeting Minutes:

Since Tim was out of town in July Gregory took the minutes. Since he is currently out of town the July meeting minutes are not available for review.

Chair Report:

Dan announced that on November 10th, 2 to 4PM, the Library would be hosting a veteran recognition reception. This will be for all people that have participated in the History Project. Library is attempting to get Representative Sandy Levin to attend along with other elected officials. Felix interjected that we need to make an announcement relating to this reception at the ceremony in front of city hall on the 10th. Library will be supplying the refreshments & other items.

Announced that all interviewees for the History Project, through April, are now on the LOC website.

Police Report:

None available.

Treasurer's Report:

Dan indicated that none was available today. Indicated that we have received $875 toward the Vietnam Plaque in front of city hall.

Old Business:

History Project:

Dan indicated that we have run through the lists that he had for people to be interviewed, so we need to start recruiting more people to be interviewed. Tim indicated that he is planning to attend the DAV meeting on 9/10, is working on the 1279th and other vet groups to make a presentation to.

Seminar on 9/19:

Felix indicated that publicity would be going out soon to the various newspapers. Channel 15 will be there to film the event and to show on the city cable channel in the future.

Felix requested a budget of $250 for this event to cover refreshments, etc. On a motion by Tim, seconded by Andy, $250 was approved for this event. Motion carried.

Noted that the Southfield Community Foundation will be sending a flier on this event to everyone on our mailing list.

Tim noted he would contact Gilda Jacobs' office to get the new Veteran Benefit books for this event.

Vietnam Plaque:

Dan indicated that old plaque has been removed from the stone and is out for refurbishing. No word when it will be retuned. Passed out possible wording for the new plaque listing the new names since we need to get order to Wietecha. A discussion took place to decide on the official wording. After the discussion Tim, seconded by Andy, made a motion to approve plaque wording.

Veteran's Day November 10th:

Felix noted that preparations are under way for this event, hosted by the Southfield Veterans Org. Asked that everyone from the commission be there by 10AM so that we can all mix/mingle. Tim indicated that VVA Post #154 would be bringing their Michigan Wall, listing the 2800+ names of people killed in Vietnam from Michigan.

Assistance Form:

Dan passed out a form drafted by Bryan to assist local veterans in need. After some discussion Tim, seconded by Felix, made a motion to use and approve the form as written. Motion approved. It was noted that we would revisit this form down the road should the need arise.

New Business:

Felix announced that SVO would be donating $100 toward the Vietnam plaque. Commission members thanked him for the contribution.

Andy announced that September would be his last meeting. He and his wife will be moving to Georgia. He will submit a letter of resignation to Dan in the next week or so.

Andy passed around a copy of the Military Ports & Stations magazine which shows where military retirees can stay when traveling around the country.

Ethel filled the commission in on her recent trip on the Honor Flight to Washington to visit the WW II memorial. Had numerous pictures that she passed around for all to look over.

The next meeting of the commission will be held on Monday, September 8th, 6:30PM, in the Parks & Rec building.

On a motion by Andy, seconded by Tim, the meeting adjourned at 8:20PM

Tim Wirkus
Secretary