



**Southfield Veterans'
Commission**
Serving all Vets

Minutes: January 12, 2009

Present:

Commissioners: Dan Brightwell, Tim Wirkus, Felix Seldon, Ethel Grossman, Gregory Pulliam

Excused:

Professional Staff: Bryan Jarrell (excused)

Volunteers & Visitors: None

Call to Order (Dan Brightwell) at 6:30PM, Parks & Recreation Bldg, Room 111, with Pledge of Allegiance.

Meeting Minutes:

Tim read the October 2008 meeting minutes after copies were passed out to all present. Felix indicated that Matt Hagaman's full name should be mentioned and not his first name. On a motion by Felix, seconded by Ethel, the minutes were approved, as amended. (November meeting was canceled since it fell on the same day as the city veteran program. Commission members, in lieu of a December meeting, held a holiday dinner.)

Chair Report:

Dan passed out information relating how the Army has turned down a request to issue the Purple Heart to those veterans suffering from PTSD. Gregory asked how this might also relate to persons that served from the National Guard.

Passed out copies of a DVD that Cable Channel 15 made from the Veterans' Day program at City Hall on November 10th.

Reported that Bryan is currently in a class on Monday nights and will be for the next couple of months. Dan is in contact with Bryan regarding issues, as they arise.

Passed out copies of three (3) applications that the city has from resident veterans seeking the opportunity to sit on our commission. The commission members, without recommendation, reviewed each.

Treasurer's Report:

Gregory reported that there have been no changes to our accounts in the past couple of months.

Old Business:

Dan reported that the History Project has now interviewed 80+ veterans, and schedule is booked through the middle of February. Dr Ursu, a veteran that we interviewed in November, would like to have his interview redone, which we will do in the next couple of months. Representative Sandy Levin's office in Washington has information relating to the history project on his web site.

New Business:

Dan produced a letter from Matt Hagaman (State of MI employment officer) requesting funds to assist a veteran with car repairs. In a discussion it was determined that this request did not meet our guidelines for assistance since the amount requested was far about our \$50 limit and that the person did not have a Southfield address.

Southfield Community Foundation is currently looking at what methods can be used to assist us in raising funds. More on this subject to follow at a later date.

Decided that our February meeting should focus on fund raising.

Tim indicated that he would be making a presentation on what the Veterans' Commission does, and the History Project, to the Southfield Commission on Senior Adults (COSA) on Thursday, January 16th, 4PM, at their regular meeting in city council chambers. COSA works with seniors, many that are veterans, everyday and they would like basic veteran information that they could pass on.

The next meeting of the commission will be held on Monday, February 9th, 6:30PM, in the Parks and Rec building.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55PM on a motion by Gregory, seconded by Felix.

Tim Wirkus
Secretary

Minutes approved at a regular meeting of the commission on February 9, 2009