



**SOUTHFIELD VETERANS' COMMISSION
VIRTUAL CHARITABLE GIVING COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY MARCH 17, 2021
1:00 PM**

The Charitable Giving Committee (CGC) meeting was called by Commissioner Chaka McDonald to bring updates and make continual arrangements for the drive through community food package distribution planned for all military veterans and their families. The event is scheduled for **May 1, 2021 from 10:00AM until 1:00PM while supplies last.**

The location will be at the Southfield Parks and Recreation Building 26000 Evergreen Road Southfield, MI

Members in attendance:

Chaka McDonald, John Eley, Barbara Seldon, Sheronda McDonald Emily Springer, Kathy McDonald, Julius Tomazewski, William Bourgeois

A summary of the meeting is as follows:

- **Mr. William Bourgeois will have his VA mobile unit (office on Wheels) for vets who may need help with veteran benefits.**
- **Frank Roche will reach out to Rich Leuterman to get the word out about the food distribution.**
- **Emily and Chaka presented a save the date flier that will be sent out by social media and Eventbrite.**
- **The flier was adjusted to recognize the Southfield Veterans' Commission as major sponsor.**
- **William Bourgeois will talk to Rhena for food boxes.**

- The Southfield VFWA Post 2645 would like to participate with the food distribution as volunteers.
- John Eley was unsuccessful in securing the Gleaners.
- Barbara Seldon was told that Forgotten harvest is no longer taking in new applicants.
- We will be depending on Frank of the American Legion to secure food boxes since they are able to get them free. Usually in volume of 500 boxes.
- Chaka will ask Gerald Houston of SVA to ask Lt. Shane Russell and himself to be at the next meeting to discuss storage of food boxes if they come early, mapping of the travel route for cars through the P and R parking lot. Securing of room 115 for set up, etc.
- Barbara Seldon has asked everyone to reach out to an organization and ask for a small donation to support the food distribution effort and help with the purchase of gift cards.
- Chaka spoke with Gerald Houston who says funds will be available but will not put a price on the amount. He does not want to deplete the SVC funds. Gerald stated that he is awaiting the tax ID# and the W9 form from the Southfield Administration to submit to Meijer Grocer for donation of gift cards. Once the W9 is received he will submit to Meijer Grocer. Meijer needs a 60-day advance notice. Getting the W9 is critical.
- It is hopeful that the save the date flier can be available for distribution by March 29, 2021.
- It was suggested that Cable 15, and Southfield Sun, be included in publications.
- The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday March 24, 2021 at 1 PM.

The meeting ended at 2:30 PM

Barbara Seldon
Recorder