



GIFTS FOR YANKS, SUB COMMITTEE MEETING

Saturday, April 15, 2017 – 10am to 4pm

Department HQ, Delaware OH

Minutes

1. **Open** – Chairman Bishop (5)
 - a. Salute Colors, Prayer led by Holly Lewis (10), Pledge of Allegiance, Darell Bishop, Chairman (5)
2. **Appoint Secretary** – Director Suzette Price (12)
3. **Roll Call:** Director Price (12), Bob Steggeman (3), John Barnhart (7), Mike Homan (2), Holly Lewis (10) Guests: Charles Armstrong (6 – DC), Dan Goodman (6), Roy Terry (2VC – 6th)
4. **Chrmn Bishop Open Remarks:** Thanked the sub-committee for attending. Holly Lewis (10) mentioned James Welsh (6) our fallen comrade and GFY Chairman of 6th District.
5. **Program Details** – Chrmn Bishop
 - a. **Fundraising status:** Reviewed District Contributions from 2 April 2016 to 6 April 2017: Total: \$254,370.91
 - b. **Expenditures:** inding a different price for 2017-2018 pins and plaques. Pins are already ordered for 2016-2017.
 - c. **Accounts:** Charles Armstrong (DC-6) asked if Newark CBOC snacks and coffee are allowed to advertise who is providing them and the response is each clinic is different and that needs to be decided by the leadership at the clinic. It shouldn't be a problem to put a sign up as to who is running the VAVS snack stands. Mike Homan (2) mentioned setting up guidelines for purchasing as a VAVS Representative. Also mentioned the program should have a booklet for the job responsibilities of a VAVS Representative. The following were mentioned as needs for the program and purpose of a sub-committee to review the program moving forward:
 - i. Create an assessment for DC & GFY Chairpersons to visit clinics and obtain a report on the volunteer status and needs. Gift Distribution as part of assessment.
 - ii. Create a list of VAVS Facilities by District and distribute to each GFY Chairperson and provide a link to the locations to the DC and GFY
 - d. **Budget**
 - i. Gift Shops: Leave the same – Accountability of what is being done with funding

- ii. Holiday Socks removed for Georgetown
 - iii. DMH is no longer being funded and we require a letter stating a program specific for veterans we would reconsider. Bob Steggeman (3) Motioned, Holly Lewis (10) seconded. Motion passed. The discussion was to make sure we sent them a formal letter.
- e. **Holiday Gift Distribution 2016:** Chairman Bishop mentioned hearing complaints that the Gifts have been getting less and less throughout the last few years and complained that it was due to “MADE IN USA” policy which has been prohibiting quantity vs quality and he mentioned to DEC.
- f. **Holiday Gifts 2017:**
- i. Max Holiday Gift would be \$30/ea. Recommendations were a blanket and a gift card. Still reviewing items and will have ideas for the May 20th Committee.
- g. **Special Projects:**
- i. 2016-2017 Special Projects Department Membership Program
 - 1. Status: There are over 50 recipients and still 250 to give away by DSO’s. The program was agreed upon to continue into 2017-2018 and any cards turned in from April on will go in June 2017 for 2017-2018 membership year.
 - ii. 77,695.00 allocated
 - iii. \$24,900.00 Georgetown OVH Second Half of Van
 - iv. Cincinnati: \$6,000.00 Clothing Program
 - v. Chillicothe: \$5,000 Veterans Appreciation Night
 - vi. Columbus: \$6,000 Art Therapy Program
 - vii. Dayton: \$6,000 – 3K ea for leather and craft
 - viii. Sandusky: \$11,500 for Rocking Chairs and Couches
 - ix. Toledo CBOC: \$6,000 Computers in lobby (recommended that Bob Schmitt personally deliver the check)
 - x. Cleveland: \$6,500, PTSD Outing, Cab Vouchers \$2,000, NWSC \$5,000
- h. **Policies**
- i. Distribute to the DEC and GFY Chairpersons
- i. **Marketing**
- i. Plan for marketing and review by newly formed sub-committee in 2017-2018.
 - ii. Create a “How To” guides for all facets of program.
 - iii. Create a sub-committee to develop the marketing aspect
 - 1. Volunteer: Holly Lewis (10), Chairwoman
 - 2. Darell Bishop (5)
 - 3. Donations are sent directly to attn: Suzette Price
 - 4. “Christmas Presents for Veterans” effective donor tool

5. All donations go to veterans
- iv. Using the funds to host Legion Sponsored events with Veterans at VA Facilities, or otherwise specifically requested:
 1. Possibly for each District
 2. Challenge Districts to submit GFY Special Project Requests for Legion sponsored events that benefit veterans in community

j. Goals for 2017-2018

- i. Create the GFY Sub-Committee to review all items listed within the Marketing plan.
- ii. Create the user guides for all facets of program
- iii. Invigorate Voluntary Services

6. Old Business

- a. None

7. New Business – None

8. Good of The American Legion - None

9. Closing – Prayer – Salute – Meeting adjourned at 3:37pm. Chairman Bishop Closed meeting with benediction held by Holly Lewis (10).