

Palm Beach County Veterans Coalition

Meeting Minutes September 10th, 2013

Present: Claudia Tuck, Cynthia Sjogren, Greg Dover, Andy Reese, Jill Benson, Donna True, Patrice Schroeder, Meredith Powers-Lupo, Angie Toro, Angela Choice, Allyson Samiljan, Shana Welsh, Tomas T Reyes-Coles, Charlotte Ribillard, Ken Okul, Josh Maddock, Marshall Goby, Raul Diaz, Michael Hershorn, Stewart W. Bosley Jr, Simone Hooven, Nancy Germansky, Scot Frank, Greg Rydman

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Call to Order and Introductions	<p>Claudia Tuck, Division Director, called the meeting to order at 9:00am.</p> <p>All present introduced themselves and the organization they represent.</p>	
Agenda/Minutes	<p>Minutes of July 2013 meeting were reviewed.</p> <p>Agenda was reviewed.</p>	<p>Minutes approved as presented.</p> <p>Agenda approved as presented.</p>
Congressional Briefings: Jill Benson	<p>* Handouts from Congressman Deutch’s office regarding Legislative Record: Honoring Our Veterans and also Tom Rooney’s legislation regarding “pension poachers.”</p> <p>* Working with Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve – Welcome Home signs at airport</p> <p>* October 17th VA claim outreach at Delray South County Civic Center. Will address and help with claims that are still pending 12 months or longer. St. Pete VARO and PA Pension Management Center will look at these very closely.</p>	<p>Contact Information: Jill Benson Phone: 561-470-5440 E-mail: jill.benson@mail.house.gov</p>
Angie Toro	<p>*Congressman Murphy office is participating in VA ribbon cutting ceremony</p> <p>*Involved with suicide prevention and connecting local veterans with resources in the community.</p>	<p>Contact Information: Angie Toro Phone: 561-253-8433 E-mail: angie.toro@mail.house.gov</p>
Nancy Germansky	<p>Congresswoman Frankel is holding a VA Benefit Workshop (District 22 only/RSVP only) on Sep 25, 2013 8:30-11:30 at FAU. Roberta Harding from VA Pension Management Center will be there.</p>	<p>Contact Information: Nancy Germansky Phone: 561-998-9045 E-mail: Nancy.Germansky@mail.house.gov</p>
Guest Speaker:	<p>*National Non Profit Organization. National Headquarters in West Palm Beach. Cover</p>	<p>Contact Information: Donna True</p>

<p>Donna True Alzheimer's Association Alzheimer's and the Veteran Population</p>	<p>all 7 counties in South Florida *Handout: -24 hour help line -screening -no blood test, no cure -no answers but a lot of literature to help and cope *Will come speak to any groups *Education is essential *211 answers community care after hours *Will help anyone (even if self inflicted) *Safe return bracelet – a charge (60% chance of wandering) *Sep 27th, Stuart, Free Educational Symposium *Alz.org has a wealth of information (lists all day cares and ALFs) *VA can order home health care (7 bathing visits and basic ADLs), respite care for caregiver (30 days a calendar year)</p>	<p>Phone: 561-967-0047 West Palm Beach E-mail: dtrue@alz.org</p>
<p>Guest Speaker: Ken Okel – Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League Pets For Patriots</p>	<p>*Animals play a huge role in making people feel better; healing power *Facility has 539 animals; 222 ready for adoption *Veterans (active or former military) download registration form and take to shelter * Vets receive 20% off adoption. * Wag.com:150.00 gift card, seniors free *Pets are 2 years or older and they do not train them to be service dogs. Owner can do that on outside.</p>	<p>Contact Information: Ken Okel Phone: 561-472-8845 Website: www.petsforpatriots.org</p>
<p>Roundtable Discussion</p>	<p>*Charlotte announced Veteran's Day Parade is Sunday, Nov 10th at 2pm. Postcards with the detailed information were distributed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If anyone would like to be on the committee contact Charlotte. Also, donations are needed. • For booth contact Seaview Radio. <p>*Lords Place/Café Joshua – lunch 11:30-1:30 every day. Staffed by homeless clients. *Faith Hope Love Charities – Stand down event at Pompea Park, Delray Beach, FL on Sep 28th, 2013. Focus on veterans - Open to community. *Forward March Program – Help vets get back on their feet and in jobs</p>	<p>Contact Information: Charlotte Rebillard Phone: 561-686-7262 E-mail: crebilla@pbcgov.org</p>

	<p>*211 has new veteran's guides. Just launched special needs hotline for families with children from birth to 22 years old.</p> <p>*Veteran's Resource Center – handout initial design of center. Providing green bags to veterans filled with goods.</p> <p>*Work Force Alliance – Assistance assessment for those vets with issues. Also, final stages of helping incarcerated veterans.</p> <p>*YWCA donations accepted of women and children items. WWCA Rep talked about honoring women veterans.</p> <p>*Operation Homefront.net _ StoryCore – NPR Oral history Sep 23,24,25th – make reservation online.</p>	
Next Meeting	Nov 12th, 2013 @ 9:00am / Location: Conference Room, Basement, 810 Datura Street.	http://www.pbcgov.org/community/services/programs/humanservices/veterans/