

Veterans Advisory Commission

Meeting Minutes

March 8, 2022

Present: Josh Gardner, Femmi Clemons, Alison Bosworth

Next meeting: May 16th, 4-6pm, The GC in Brighton – Room W8101

1. Memorial Update

We need to provide feedback to Cyndi on the following items for the memorial:

- Attached is a document that shows artwork on cement slabs which is being suggested for the story wall. This form of medium is being suggested based on the previous conversation about sustainable artwork and it is also able to show greater detail than many of the other mediums.
- There also will potentially be branch creeds carved into the smokestacks of the ship for every branch
- A flier is being developed and sent to the public which would be asking for folks to send in their stories to be included in the story wall. The original wording said “Adams County Veterans” but it was suggested to change it to “Adams County Honoring Veterans” so that folks don’t assume that you need t be a veteran for the project submission.

2. Memorial Name Competition Update

There were no submissions for the naming competition so we will need to come up with the name. The suggestions so far are as follows:

- HONOR | VALOR Veterans Park
- Warriors Crossing Veterans Park
- Warriors Pointe Veterans Park
- Warriors Crossing Pointe
- Adams County All Veterans Memorial
- Veterans Memorial at Riverdale

- Warriors Memorial Pointe At Riverdale

- Riverdale Way Pointe Memorial

3. Materials/Challenge Coin Status Update

- The 1st coin has a mockup being made and the proof will be provided to the VAC once it is available for review. The second coin did not get any submissions from Post 1 artists so Josh will be asking the air national guard to help with the design.
- Business cards and VAC informational fliers have been made and given to those who have attended events in the past few weeks. Femmi has the ones for everyone else with her when she sees you next.

- Josh has the VAC tent and Femmi has the table cover for events.
- Vests should be shipped to us soon.
- VAC logo and QR code are complete and will be continuously included in any advertisements and materials going forward.

4. Veteran Center Update

There was a meeting held by the Commerce City Council and it looks like the dollar amount they would like for the originally proposed space is about \$18,000 per month and the space would house about 7 organizations with just over 10,000 square feet. A formal RFP will be sent into the community because the commission wanted to see what other organizations may be interested in the space. We will wait to see the RFP once it comes out.

- We may want to begin looking for new locations to house the center. Alison suggested someone and is going to follow up with her contact. Public transportation is high priority for this location.

5. Website Updates and Sub Committee Discussion

- A VAC banner is being developed for digital platforms which includes the VAC logo.
- We previously discussed possibly having a Facebook instead of adding to the website.

Who would like to champion this aspect? We currently have suggestions for adding:

- An achievement/ projects page or section
- Calendar of events/ veteran's events
- Pictures and bio of members/ a meet your member's section
- Scrapbook section to show pictures of us at events/ actually working

Action Item:

- Connect social media person with Communications team to discuss how they can be involved in the Facebook concept (FEMMI)
- Will we be creating a subcommittee or just making some revisions to the county webpage?
- Please go to the page and take a screenshot of it. Mark edits and send them to Femmi.

6. 2022 Calendar of Events Review

The 2022 calendar is below which also includes dates **in red and has an attached event flier for the public**. If there is an event that someone wants to help plan, please let us know. We should spend time next meeting ironing out some more of the details of events.

Action Items:

- Attached are the surveys for the public. Please review and let Femmi know any suggested changes.
- Femmi contacted the regional park team to get a map developed for the events to include routes to the memorial for viewing. Femmi will talk to parks about signs for day of events.
- Everyone will begin planning the events they volunteered for and will bring updates on progress to next meeting.

The planning was divided as follows (green events are past):

- **Don** - Bowling Tournament at the summit (January 24 from 3pm-630pm with half hour before and after for set-up & clean-up @ the Summit Bowling Alley in Thornton. Event Flier is attached for dissemination.)
- **Don** - Volleyball tournament at the Oasis (February)
- **Stephanie** - Family Bike Ride at Riverdale Regional Park (March 19) We are still looking for food trucks (or just food?) that would be willing to do free or discounted food at the event. Suggestions?
- **Allison** - Military Child Month Art Celebration (April) Alison's updates are at the end of the document.
- **Allison & Femmi** - Military Spouse Paint and Sip (May) Alison's updates are at the end of the document.
- **Allison & Femmi** - Relay Races at Riverdale Regional (May 21)
- **Femmi** - Military and Veteran Outreach Event (May 14 @ HSC 10:30 – 3:30)
- **Don** - Golf Tournament in Commerce City (June) Contact for commerce city? Craig Hurst
- **Don** - Fishing tournament/July 3rd event at Riverdale Regional (July 16) WarriorNow may be helping with this event
- **Allison** - Golf tournament with Bodhi Battalion (August)
- **Allison & Femmi** - 5K events at Riverdale (October 15) WarriorNow may be helping with this event. Stars and stripes?
- **Don** - Yoga at Red Rocks with Comeback Yoga (September)
- **Everyone** - Trunk or Treat (October 31 @HSC?)
- **Terry** - Art "museum" with VFW post 1 (November) Cancelled
- **Allison & Femmi** - 10K event at Riverdale Regional (November 19) WarriorNow may be helping with this event
- **Everyone, Luke & Josh** - Hosted Veterans day event (discuss a Casino night at a location that Luke has available!) (November) Veterans Day, Charitable event for anyone to join
- **Everyone** - Holiday Cookoff for ADCO veteran staff members? (December @GC from 11-1 and we have the room from 10-2 for set-up and break down) Femmi will contact police, sheriffs, and parks to engage those folks who normally don't attend. Pot luck chili cookoff!

7. Other Items

- We got updates from Built for zero who has been able to reduce veteran homelessness from 80 to 20 and is now wanting to discuss how to approach a veteran housing project.
- Youth Art Celebration: Alison has concerns regarding the price point being \$45 per child will limit the participation and put a financial burden on veteran families. To mitigate

the costs and fact that the commission doesn't have a budget to support event costs, figuring out a way to raise \$1200-\$1400 for the event. By raising that amount of funds, we will be able to offer the cost at \$10-\$15 per child (event max is 40 participants). At minimum we would like to raise \$600, this would allow the price point to be \$15 for the first 20 youth to RSVP (20 is the minimum needed to hold the event).

- Quanto Incorporated (Alison's company) has offered to donate \$300 toward the event. We need to know by Friday March 11th if others/companies would be able to contribute so we can finalize marketing material.
- Josh offered \$100
- Chaz offered \$100
- Luke offered \$100

**Our next meeting will be:
Tuesday, May 16th, 4-6pm, The GC in Brighton – Room W8101**