Lansing Veterans Commission

Meeting Minutes

16 August 19

I. Call to order

11:05 a.m. on 30 September 19 at Davenport University, Lansing Campus.

II. Roll call

The Following Commission Members were present:

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<tr>
<td>Mark Alley – Chair</td>
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<td>Michael Stone</td>
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<td>P.J. Anderson - Chaplain</td>
<td>Excused</td>
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<td>Mark Sutton – Treasurer</td>
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<td>Natrenah Blackstock – Vice Chair</td>
<td>x</td>
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<td>Chris Taylor</td>
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<td>Anna Casey</td>
<td>Excused</td>
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<td>Mark Lawrence – Mayor’s Office Liaison</td>
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<td>Mike McDaniel</td>
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<td>Daryl Green – LPD</td>
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<td>Tim Salisbury</td>
<td>Excused</td>
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<td>Krishna Singh – LFD</td>
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<td>Alfreda Schmidt - Veterans Assistant</td>
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Guests: The following guests were present for at least a portion of the meeting

No guests present

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

   a) M. Lawrence Moved to Accept Minutes
   b) Second M. McDaniel

IV. New Business
   (i) Number of deposits have been received, pending final figures
b) Fundraising Report
   (i) See Attached Commitments
   (ii) Total $14,000 in donations received with more deposits pending

V. Veterans Day Planning – C. Taylor
   a) C. Taylor will evaluate options for hot breakfast
   b) Singh – Suggested chow-hall style breakfast
   c) M. Lawrence suggested Lettuce Cook as catering option
   d) C. Taylor reaching out to possible chaplains – Paul Lepley / Brian Webb
   e) A. Schmidt – floral arrangement approved for use by family florist, more details pending
   f) D. Green – has color guard on stand-by if military isn’t available. Also have Police Explorers that can assist as ushers at event
   g) Parking – city holiday so ramp could be open just south of Cooley Law School off Capitol Ave. M. Lawrence will check on availability of parking in that lot for event time and will also check on work schedule of meter enforcement for that day.
   h) M. McDaniel agreed to be key note speaker
   i) M. Alley – MC Sherry Jones will return. C. Taylor will contact Sherry to discuss programming flow.
   j) Advertising – M. Lawrence will request press release to be sent to all possible parties for maximum exposure
   k) C. Taylor will visit Cooley Law School to evaluate size of location
   l) Music – local school groups or small expenditure for background music – C. Taylor will check options.
   m) M. McDaniel will contact Cooley Student for National Anthem
   n) M. Alley suggested coordination with M. Lawrence for agenda.

VI. Military and Veteran Issues / Metrics
    a) M. Sutton unavailable – no other members available to speak for sub-team

VII. Veteran Families – N. Blackstock
a) LGBTQ+ Veterans Group – on hold as A. Obanjoko was identified to coordinate, however, has been released from MVAA position as Regional VCAT Coordinator. Pending new coordinator to complete group.

b) Sponsor-A-Warrior program – hand assembled packages for deployed soldiers. Is a 501(c)(3) group, request for information on Lansing area soldiers that are deployed
   (i) Packages can be sent to specifically identified soldiers (identified as from Lansing area)

VIII. Open Discussion

a) M. Alley – Commission owes report to Mayor for update on status of Lansing Veterans, Commission needs, and needs of Veterans in community. Wants to create a sub-team in upcoming months to assemble a report on updates.
   (i) Report due end of March per charter, covering preceding year’s activities

b) M. Lawrence needs logos for donors for City of Lansing Webpage

c) M. Lawrence – M. Fujita has withdrawn her name for consideration for the Lansing Veterans Commission

d) A. Schmidt – inquired if LVC can be part of the Lansing 9/11 event

IX. Next Meeting – Friday October 18, 11AM. Lansing PD Operations Center 5825 Wise Rd, Lansing MI.

X. Adjournment

a) Motion – M. McDaniel

b) Second – D. Green

c) Carried

Minutes Submitted by: Chris Taylor – Secretary
Minutes approved by: ______________________