



**TOWN OF ABINGDON, VIRGINIA  
VETERANS ADVISORY BOARD  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2023 – 5:15 PM  
ARTHUR CAMPBELL ROOM  
FIRST FLOOR, TOWN HALL**

**DRAFT AGENDA**

- A. Call to Order – Chair Kiser**
- B. Roll Call – Chair Kiser**
- C. Pledge of Allegiance – Cade Parks**
- D. Approval of draft agenda – Chair Kiser**
- E. Approval of minutes – Chair Kiser**
  - November 16, 2023
- F. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Please place your name on the sign-up sheet provided, and comments are limited to three (3) minutes per person.**
  - Town of Abingdon residents
  - Other public comments (e.g. organizations)
- G. NEW BUSINESS**
- H. OLD BUSINESS**
  - 1. Updates from standing committees
- I. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CHAIR**
- J. MEMBER REPORTS**
- K. NEXT MEETING – Chair Kiser**
- L. ADJOURNMENT**

**VETERANS ADVISORY BOARD  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2023 – 5:15 pm  
ARTHUR CAMPBELL ROOM – MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

The regular meeting of the Veterans Advisory Board was held on Thursday, November 16, 2023 at 5:15 pm in the Arthur Campbell Room of the Municipal Building.

- A. Call to Order – *Chair Kiser***
- B. Roll Call**

Members Present:

Lynn Bennett  
Kyle Craig  
Richard “Dickie” Kiser  
Mel Schwartzstein  
Tim Estes  
Amanda Pillion  
John Lentz (arrived 5:22)  
Vickie Bennett  
Albert T. Lawson, Jr. (arrived 5:20)  
Gary Bailey

Members absent:

Cade Parks  
Francine Ivery

- C. Pledge of Allegiance**
- D. Approval of draft agenda**

**Upon motion by Lynn Bennett, seconded by Mel Schwartzstein, approved the agenda as presented.**

**Amanda Pillion  
Gary Bailey  
Lynn Bennett  
Kyle Craig  
Tim Estes  
Richard “Dickie” Kiser  
Albert T. Lawson, Jr.  
Mel Schwartzstein  
Vickie Bennett**

**E. Approval of minutes**

Upon motion by Lynn Bennett, seconded by Mel Schwartzstein, approved the October 19, 2023 minutes as presented.

**Amanda Pillion**

**Gary Bailey**

**Abstained (absent)**

**Lynn Bennett**

**Kyle Craig**

**Tim Estes**

**Richard "Dickie" Kiser**

**Mel Schwartzstein**

**Vickie Bennett**

**F. Public Comments -**

**G. New Business –**

Mr. Estes conveyed hoodies are expected to be ready to pick up on Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup>. Plan on picking up hoodie by November 30<sup>th</sup> as Kim will be out of town for Clerk's meeting on December 1<sup>st</sup>. The notice of the 2024 meetings were distributed to the members.

**H. OLD BUSINESS –**

Lynn Bennett discussed dates and events for November – January 2, 2024, with the members

**I. Miscellaneous Business and Communications from Chair**

**J. Members Reports**

**K. Schedule next meeting – Thursday, December 21, 2023**

---

**Richard Kiser, Chair**

---

**Kim Kingsley, Clerk**

**Approved: \_\_\_\_\_**

Presented by Lynn Bennett

## AGENDA FOR NOV/DEC 2023

### OLD BUSINESS:

NOV. 17 – FRIDAY, 0900, VETERAN CHRISTMAS TREE TRIMMING - VISITOR CENTER

NOV. 18 – SATURDAY, 0900, VAB BREAKFAST AT FOOD CITY

NOV. 19 – SUNDAY, 1700, TREE LIGHTING AT THE VISITOR CENTER

NOV. 21 – TUESDAY, 1100-1400, CELEBRITY BAGGING GREETERS (VARIOUS TIMES)

NOV. 29 – WEDNESDAY, 0830, BREAKFAST AT COMMONWEALTH SENIOR LIVING CENTER

---

DEC. 2 - SATURDAY, 1530, CHRISTMAS PARADE, MEET AT FIRST BANK (across from Walgreens)

DEC. 5 - TUESDAY, 0800, VAB BREAKFAST AT FOOD CITY

DEC. 10 – SUNDAY, 1600, TBD... Possible VA Nat'l Found dinner.

DEC. 16 - SATURDAY, 0900, VAB BREAKFAST AT FOOD CITY

DEC. 21 – THURSDAY, 1715, VAB MEETING

DEC. 27 - WEDNESDAY, 0830, BREAKFAST AT COMMONWEALTH SENIOR LIVING CENTER

---

JAN. 2 - TUESDAY, 0800, VAB BREAKFAST AT FOOD CITY

---

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

- OPPORTUNITY FOR VAB RELATIONS AT DEER MEADOWS. THEY ARE ASKING FOR US! → *MONTHLY VISIT IF POSSIBLE*
- NEXT YEAR CALENDAR (SEE BELOW)

## **CALENDAR – 80 YEARS AGO (1944-2024)**

- **JAN** – 29<sup>th</sup> Siege of Leningrad ends
- **FEB** – 19<sup>th</sup> Iwo Jima landing
- **MAR** – RAF air raid on Nuremburg
- **APR** – landing in north New Guinea
- **MAY** – final victory at Monte Cassino/ breakout at Anzio, and victory in Burma (Pacific)
- **JUN** – D-Day, Allies enter Rome.
- **JUL** – 4300 Japanese Bonzi charge in Saipan. Landings on Guam (Pacific) and an attempt to kill Hitler ETO
- **AUG** – Warsaw uprising Poland. Patton takes command 3<sup>rd</sup> Army.
- **SEP** – Op Market Garden airborne invasion of Netherlands
- **OCT** – Battle Leyte gulf in Pacific, 20th MacArther returns to Philippines and The Battle of Aachen ETO
- **NOV** – Tirpitz sunk 12th.
- **DEC** – Bulge Battle

***Many, many other events. Can we tie in a film or other to the event?***