



**VETERANS ADVISORY BOARD  
THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2024 – 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 – *Vickie Bennett***
- D. Approval of draft agenda – *Chair Kiser***
- E. Approval of minutes – *Chair Kiser***
  - February 15, 2024
- 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**
  - 1. Discussion regarding Plumb Alley Day
- H. OLD BUSINESS**
  - 1. Updates from standing committees
  - 2. Discussion regarding D-Day t-shirts
  - 3. Discussion regarding hosting Armed Forces Day event (May 18<sup>th</sup>)
  - 4. Discussion regarding visiting the D-Day Memorial
  - 5. Discussion regarding “Best of Abingdon” Reserve and Guard supported business
- I. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CHAIR**
- J. MEMBER REPORTS**
- K. NEXT MEETING – *Chair Kiser***
- L. ADJOURNMENT**

**VETERANS ADVISORY BOARD  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2024 – 5:15 pm  
ARTHUR CAMPBELL ROOM – MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

The regular meeting of the Veterans Advisory Board was held on Thursday, February 15, 2024 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  
Albert T. Lawson, Jr. (arrived 5:31 pm)  
Amanda Pillion  
John Lentz  
Vickie Bennett

Members absent:

Gary Bailey  
Cade Parks  
Francine Ivery

Guests:

Julianne Miles  
Rick Lane

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

**Upon motion by John Lentz, seconded by Tim Estes, approved the agenda as presented.**

<b>Amanda Pillion</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Gary Bailey</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Lynn Bennett</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Kyle Craig</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Tim Estes</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Richard “Dickie” Kiser</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Albert T. Lawson, Jr.</b>	<b>Absent at vote</b>
<b>Mel Schwartzstein</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>John Lentz</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Vickie Bennett</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Cade Parks</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Francine Ivery</b>	<b>Absent</b>

**E. Approval of minutes**

**Upon motion by Lynn Bennett, seconded by Mel Schwartzstein, approved the December 21, 2023 minutes as presented.**

<b>Amanda Pillion</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Gary Bailey</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Lynn Bennett</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Kyle Craig</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Tim Estes</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Richard “Dickie” Kiser</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Albert T. Lawson, Jr.</b>	<b>Absent at vote</b>
<b>Mel Schwartzstein</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>John Lentz</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Vickie Bennett</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Cade Parks</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Francine Ivery</b>	<b>Absent</b>

**F. Public Comments –**

Chair Kiser invited Rick Lane to address the Board. Mr. Lane advised Don Parker will celebrate his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at the Cleveland Presbyterian Church on Cleveland Road. Mr. Lane invited the members to attend and stay for lunch afterward. Discussion ensued regarding presenting Mr. Parker with a Proclamation and other ways to honor him.

5:31 pm – A. J. Lawson joined the meeting

**G. New Business –**

Mr. Schwartzstein and Mr. Craig discussed D-Day 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary mementos, and t-shirts similar to the Purple Heart shirts previously ordered. Mr. Estes provided samples of challenge coins that were discussed.

Lynn Bennett discussed visiting Deer Meadows and Commonwealth centers and asked if anyone would like to volunteer. Discussion also included how to encourage businesses to support the Veterans. Mr. Lentz stated that he could assist in this endeavor. Mr. Craig questioned “Friendliest business to Vets” during the Best of Abingdon awards. Several dates were discussed regarding upcoming events.

Mr. Estes and Mayor Pillion discussed the April 20<sup>th</sup> Day of Service and requested the members think about projects and/or volunteer opportunities.

**H. Old Business –**

Julianne Miles and Lynn Bennett presented videos from three members of the Veterans Advisory Board. Discussion included if the project was what the Board wanted to pursue, sharing, and retaining the documentaries at the Historic Society of Washington County, YouTube, etc. A video/photograph release was also provided for the Board to review. The release will be sent to the Town Attorney for his review prior to circulation. Julianne Miles advised they were working on when and where, but were using March 26, 2024, as a learning session at the Veterans event at Bristol Motor Speedway.

Discussion regarding a Armed Forces Day was discussed. It was agreed to use May 18, 2024 breakfast and invite recruiters, etc.

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

**J. Members Reports**

**K. Schedule next meeting – Thursday, March 21, 2024**

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**Richard Kiser, Chair**

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**Kim Kingsley, Clerk**

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