



**VETERANS ADVISORY BOARD
THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 2024 – 5:30 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 – Francine Ivery**
- D. Approval of draft agenda – Chair Kiser**
- E. Approval of minutes – Chair Kiser**
 - July 18, 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**
- 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, JULY 18, 2024 – 5:15 pm
ARTHUR CAMPBELL ROOM – MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

The regular meeting of the Veterans Advisory Board was held on Thursday, July 18, 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:

Amanda Pillion
Kyle Craig
Richard “Dickie” Kiser
Mel Schwartzstein
Francine Ivery
John Lentz
Tim Estes
Josh Ringstaff

Members absent:

Lynn Bennett
Vickie Bennett
AJ Lawson
Mike Cochran

Guest:

Julianne Miles

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

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

Amanda Pillion	Aye
Lynn Bennett	Absent
Kyle Craig	Aye
Tim Estes	Aye
Richard “Dickie” Kiser	Aye
Albert T. Lawson, Jr.	Absent (not present at vote)
Mel Schwartzstein	Aye
John Lentz	Aye
Vickie Bennett	Absent
Francine Ivery	Aye
Mike Cochran	Absent

E. Approval of minutes

Upon motion by John Lentz, seconded by Mel Schwartzstein, approved the June 20, 2024 minutes as presented.

Amanda Pillion	Aye
Lynn Bennett	Absent
Kyle Craig	Aye
Tim Estes	Aye
Richard “Dickie” Kiser	Aye
Albert T. Lawson, Jr.	Absent (not present at vote)
Mel Schwartzstein	Aye
John Lentz	Aye
Vickie Bennett	Absent
Francine Ivery	Aye
Mike Cochran	Absent

F. Public Comments –

Julianne Miles provided an update regarding the Veteran Voices of Southwest Virginia in that the Historic Society is trying to connect to YouTube Channel, however it is not linked to the QR Code. She also stated it was suggested that a transcript of the video be created for the video.

5:20 pm AJ Lawson joined the meeting.

G. New Business –

Kyle Craig suggested that the group focus on two major events a year, *i.e.* Field of Flags and VE day VJ day in Spring 2025. Discussion ensued regarding Purple Heart Day on August 7th and upcoming events in August through December.

Discussion regarding installation of a new Purple Heart parking sign be installed with several locations being discussed. Mr. Schwartzstein stated that the whole idea was to get recognition of the Veterans and add an additional parking spot yearly.

On motion by Tim Estes, seconded by John Lentz, install a Purple Heart parking sign at the Harry L. Coomes Recreation Center on August 7th at 10:00 am and refer to the Town Manager and Kyle Pollard for the appropriate parking spot.

Amanda Pillion	Aye
Lynn Bennett	Absent
Kyle Craig	Aye
Tim Estes	Aye
Richard “Dickie” Kiser	Aye

Albert T. Lawson, Jr.	Aye
Mel Schwartzstein	Aye
John Lentz	Aye
Vickie Bennett	Absent
Francine Ivery	Aye
Mike Cochran	Absent

Discussion included discussion regarding Vet Expo in October in Abingdon, Blood Drive on October 25, and Trick or Treat on October 26.

On motion by Kyle Craig, seconded by Tim Estes, purchase candy for the Town's Trick-or-Treat event on Main Street in line with the 2023 Trick-or-treat candy.

Amanda Pillion	Aye
Lynn Bennett	Absent
Kyle Craig	Aye
Tim Estes	Aye
Richard "Dickie" Kiser	Aye
Albert T. Lawson, Jr.	Aye
Mel Schwartzstein	Aye
John Lentz	Aye
Vickie Bennett	Absent
Francine Ivery	Aye
Mike Cochran	Absent

Mr. Craig questioned if the Committee would like to decorate a tree at the Abingdon Visitors Center, defending last year's win. Everyone agreed to decorate a tree. Mr. Craig also discussed the November 26th Celebrity Bagging event and the theme of the Christmas parade.

Mr. Craig also requested that the meetings be moved from 5:15 pm to 5:30 pm to allow more members to attend.

On motion by John Lentz, seconded by Mel Schwartzstein, to move the meetings from 5:15 pm to 5:30 pm.

Amanda Pillion	Aye
Lynn Bennett	Absent
Kyle Craig	Aye
Tim Estes	Aye
Richard "Dickie" Kiser	Aye
Albert T. Lawson, Jr.	Aye
Mel Schwartzstein	Aye
John Lentz	Aye
Vickie Bennett	Absent

Francine Ivery
Mike Cochran

Aye
Absent

H. Old Business –

- Update from standing committees - None

- I. Miscellaneous Business and Communications from Chair**
- J. Members Reports**
- K. Schedule next meeting – August 15, 2024**

Richard Kiser, Chair

Kim Kingsley, Clerk

Approved: _____

