



**VETERANS ADVISORY BOARD
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 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**
- D. Approval of draft agenda – Chair Kiser**
- E. Approval of minutes – Chair Kiser**
 - September 19, 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**
- I. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CHAIR**
- J. MEMBER REPORTS**
- K. NEXT MEETING – Chair Kiser**
- L. ADJOURNMENT**

VAB meeting September 19, 2024 – 5:30 PM Held in the Arthur Campbell Room.

Called to order by Vice Chair L. Bennett – Tim Estes acting as Secretary Pro Tem

Roll call

Members Present:

Mayor Pillion – arrived at 5:42 PM

Kristen Henley

Lynn Bennett

Kyle Craig

Clint Harris

Tim Estes

Josh Ringstaff

Members absent:

Francine Ivery

Dickie Kiser

Vickie Bennett

John Lentz

Albert Lawson

Mike Cochran

Pledge of Allegiance led by Henley

Approval of Draft agenda

Motion to approve with amendments, date, time and VetFest changed to Vet Expo under Old Business made by Harris, 2nd by Craig, Motion passed. All in attendance voted Aye, except Mayor (not arrived)

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve made by Craig, 2nd by Harris, Motion passed. All in attendance voted Aye, except Mayor (not arrived), Estes abstain

Public Comments

Karena Lollis – Virginia National Guard, Military and Family Readiness Specialist spoke about her program that assists VANG and their families.

Mayor Pillion arrived 5:42 PM

New Business

- Motion by Craig, 2nd by Estes to ask Town Council to do a resolution at the October 23rd meeting for November – Military and Family Appreciation month.

Discussion – ask Kim to use the previous years resolution as a model.

Motion passed – all voting AYE

- Craig discussed a ROTC event coming up on October 19th. The event will be posted on the VAB Facebook page to advertise.
- Discussion about VAB bylaws and signature page for New Members – VAB asked if Kim could follow-up
- L. Bennett – Vet Expo with Senator Pillion – is that a go or no-go? Mayor Pillion checked and the Vet Expo is still TBD. Mayor Pillion to communicate any new information as it becomes available.

Old Business

- Craig - Blood Drive – October 25 at APD – American Legion asked to borrow VAB’s tent, table and chairs for the event. American Legion will present recognition certificates to those that donate blood.
 - Motion by Harris, 2nd by Henley to let American Legion borrow tent, table and chairs. Motion passed all voting Aye.
 - Craig to coordinate
- L. Bennett – Assisted Living Facility calendar
 - In October, Veteran at Commonwealth Assisted Living turning 100 – more information to come
- L. Bennett – Reminder VetFest in Lebanon on September 28. VAB members will be in attendance
- L. Bennett – Assisted Living Facilities typically do the Veteran’s Day event on the Saturday before the 11th. VAB to present certificates to veterans at the two Assisted Living Facilities located in Town – more information to come
- L. Bennett – Town Halloween – October 26 – VAB to set up in front of Town Hall – Dress up if you would like
- Craig – November if busy month
 - November 9 – Assisted Living Facility events for Veteran’s Day
 - November 11 – Veteran’s Day service and Veteran’s Memorial Park at 11AM – VAB member to attend
 - November 13 – Veteran’s Day event at Cornerstone Christian Academy – more information to come.
- Craig – Remember Christmas tree event coming up in November – don’t forget toiletries and pet items as donations.
- Discussion was held about the Veterans Memorial Park, its foundation and the Veteran’s Day service on November 11. Estes reported that the theme for this year is Gold Star Families and that the Garden Club of Abingdon would be presenting the First Gold Star Family bronze plaque, in Virginia, that day as part of the program.

- Reminder of Veteran Breakfast at Food City – September 21 @ 9:00 AM
- Next meeting – October 17 @ 5:30 PM

Motion to adjourn and passed by all in attendance.