

Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Meeting March 15, 2012 Armed Forces Reserve and Community Center 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Attendance: Monica B, Paul B, Jim J, Jim R, Carol Ann S, Susan M, John T, April T, Bob B, Gaylen S, Kerri K, Curtis A, Dan J, Dave R, Don G. Helen S, Patti M, Kelsey M, Steven W, Gail G, Bob F, Mary F.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Participants in the Snowflake Parade were presented with blankets.

The minutes from our last meeting were e-mailed. One change was needed listing the correct next meeting date. A motion was made by Mary F and seconded by Paul B to approve the minutes. A motion was made by Gaylen S with a second by John T to remove Executive Board minutes from the web-site.

The treasurer's report was presented with a balance of \$33,926.67. Discussion was made to ensure revenue from sales of blankets goes toward funding mailing packages to troops.

Web site report – Scott was not able to attend the meeting but e-mailed his report - Web site visitors 3,565. The most recent three "friends" will be posted on the web site soon. Anoka Ramsey Community College veterans' event poster placed on the calendar page. Photos are needed from the chili feed to put on the web site. No new emails from service members. The action plan will be added as a hot link on the home page.

The picture from the brochure is not on the web-site, we will ask Scott to correct this as well as correcting the format of the items on the brochure.

Billboard report – Gaylen S reported he will create a form to place signs. This will be placed on the web-site. A sign will be placed at Clarence's Recycling during the month of April and the first week of May.

Resource/Brochure committee and Friends of BYR – the new brochures have been ordered and have arrived.

Support our Troops – John & April T reported have sent out 18 packages this month. All names submitted to receive packages need to have a complete address.

Community Resource Coordinator – Lindy P was not available for a report.

Congregational Committee – Bryce H was not available for a report.

Fund Raising/Finance Committee Report – Gail G – we received an unsolicited donation of \$50.00. Landmark Community Bank donated \$150.00 toward the camo quilt project.

Camo Quilts for the Troops report by Bob and Mary F – The total number of quilts made is 198 with 133 sent to service members. Everyone is encouraged to come and sew every Monday from 1:00 – 8:00.

School Liaison – Gail attended the K-12 tool kit working group on 3/13/2012. April is Month of the Military Child. Governor Dayton will send military children a letter of gratitude in honor of their service and sacrifice. You can register to have your child listed to receive the letter in the near future at www.mdva.state.mn.us/child. All are encouraged to purple up for military kids April 13, 2012.

Law Enforcement – Bob B is starting State wide training, in Bemidji 3/27 and Fergus Falls 3/28. The Public Safety De-escalation Tactics consists of 3 hour curriculum for executives and 8 hours for staff. The full blown course will be available in May.

Old Business – Jim R went to the Yellow Ribbon Rendezvous at Craguns on February 25th. Isanti County BYR is ahead of the curve. Best Practices summaries will be forwarded to task force when they arrive to Jim via e-mail.

A motion was made by Jim J with a second by Gaylen to donate the five gallons of chili left over from the Arctic Plunge to the Mason's Potato Feed for cancer research.

Upcoming events -

- AVVA Pancake Breakfast Sunday, March 25, 2012, at the Community Center in Isanti
- Veterans' Panel Tuesday, March 27, 2012, at Cambridge Center of Anoka Ramsey Community College
- Minnesota State Council Vietnam Veterans of America Town Hall Meeting dealing with Agent Orange issues, Saturday, March 24, 2012, 8am – 4pm, at Creekside Community Center, Bloomington
- Saturday, May 5, 2012 BYR at Clarence's Recycling
 - Volunteers are needed
 - We need to advertise in paper and place on facebook
 - A flyer will be e-mailed to task force
- Friday, March 30th - Send Heroes to the Hive as the Swarm go up against the Calgary Roughnecks on Friday, March 30th at 7:30pm. The Swarm will be honoring local military members, veterans, police officers, firefighters and nurses throughout the night. If interested, check details at mnswarm.org
- Patriot Ride Saturday, June 16, 2012, Time TBD
 - Motion was made by Don C with a second by Jim J to support the concept of changing the Patriot Ride route to follow 2nd Avenue to Main Street and then to Highway 65.

Steve W discussed doing a Cambridge Patriot Day in conjunction with the Renegade Run 5K & Kids Run, 2012 Patriot Ride, and Rum River Bike Classic at the Armed Forces Reserve Center.

New Friends of BYR were presented:

The Inglorious Hellcats – musical band. They will donate \$1.00 per CD sold. All donations are to be used for families of deployed service members. Motion to accept by Susan M, second by Jim J.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, April 19, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the AFRCC.