

Veteran's Commission Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 20th, 2021 at 4:00 PM
Romeoville Recreation Center
900 W. Romeo Road
Romeoville, IL 60446

- I. Call to Order**
 - a. This meeting was called to order at 4:03 PM.
- II. Introductions**
 - a. The commission went around the room and stated their names as there were a few new people in attendance. Two representatives from Romeoville High School, Lester Abanto and Jonathan Couturier, explained their new role at the school and their interest in establishing a relationship with this commission. Their hope is to provide their cadets with volunteer hours and local opportunities to interact with Veteran's.
- III. New Staff Liaison**
 - a. Olivia Blomberg, Executive Assistant in the Mayor's Office, will take over the Veteran's Commission as the staff liaison. Kelly Rajzer and Marissa Cardoni will stay on in the mean time to ensure a smooth transition.
 - b. Olivia can be contacted via email at oblomberg@romeoville.org or by phone at 815-886-5636.
- IV. Memorial Day Video**
 - a. Residents are encouraged to submit the name, branch of service, years served, and a photo of a veteran they would like to honor. The veteran must have been a Romeoville resident and must be deceased. All 2020 participants will be included unless stated otherwise. To be included in the 2021 Memorial Day Video Tribute, you must complete and submit this [form](#) by Friday, May 14th, 2021. Any questions can be directed to marketing@romeoville.org.
- V. 2021 Scholarship Recipients**
 - a. Two winners have been determined by the commission to receive the 2021 Veteran's Commission Scholarships.
 - b. Both recipients will be honored at an award ceremony held by their school. Plainfield East High School's ceremony is closed to the public and is requesting that scholarship sponsors provide a 2 minute or less video awarding their recipient. The video must be submitted to the school no later than May 7th. Romeoville High School will be holding their ceremony in person and a representative from the commission will need to be in attendance to present the award. Both award ceremonies will be held on Wednesday, May 19th at their respected locations.
- VI. Fundraising**
 - a. Currently, the commission is not looking to hold any fundraisers. The American Legion is holding their Queen of Hearts raffle at Lost Acre and will begin to have other organizations sell raffle tickets as a fundraiser. Once dates have been determined for the Veterans Commission, an email with details will be sent to the commission seeking volunteers to sell the tickets.
- VII. Banner Program**

- a. The Veteran Banners will be put up in May and displayed until November.

VIII. Memorial Day Service

- a. This year's Memorial Day Service will be held on Monday, May 31st at the Edward "Doc" McCartan Veteran's Memorial at 10 AM. While this event is closed to the public because of the current COVID guidelines, organizations have been invited to present wreaths and have their members attend the service. The public is invited to stop by the Veteran's Memorial at their own convenience that day.

IX. Member Reports

- a. Ken Griffin reported that the Veteran's Golf Outing will be held at Carilion on September 13th.
- b. Steven Daley reported that the American Legion in conjunction with Will County Senior Services will be hosting a Kentucky Derby Day on May 1st. They are also hosting a Joliet Slammers Game in conjunction with the Romeoville Chamber of Commerce in June. Lastly, they reported that hosting the pancake breakfast during the craft fair was a big success for their organization and hopes to participate in more of them in the future.
- c. Jacob Reed reported that Lewis University has been hosting COVID Vaccination clinics if anyone in Will County is interested.
- d. Dawn Caldwell reported some additional benefits for Veteran's within the community and opportunities for the commission such as the \$2 discount on veteran resident's garbage bill, allowing the commission to advertise in the quarterly water billing statement, and noted the Veteran's tab on the Village's website with helpful links.

X. Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 20th, 2021 at 4:00 PM

XI. Adjournment

- a. This meeting was adjourned at 4:42 PM.