

## **L/A MMCN Meeting Minutes November 23, 2016**

**Present:** Nathaniel Grace, Kyra Darling, Amy Line, Jerry Dewitt, Nancy Dubord, Betty Ann Sheats, Rich Kowalczyk, Jamie Demers, Michael Roy, Scott Hutcherson, Donna Richardson, Phil Black, Jim Doherty, Linda Lajoie, Louise Ingraham

### **Updates:**

**Jerry-** Handed out the Eagle Cane request form. If interested see in for a form

- If you or someone you know wants to be on the next memorial stone see Jerry for an application. They were handed out at the meeting.
- L/A airport has a cadet program ages 12-19. They meet Thursdays at 6.
- If you want to give a holiday card to a veteran at Togus please give it to Jerry by December 19<sup>th</sup> and he will be bringing them over.
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**Rich-** Job fair December 5<sup>th</sup> at the Lewiston Career Center from 10-12. There are 30 to 40 employers.

**Louise-** Presented about the National Diabetes Prevention Program. They help with prevention, education, and support. It's a yearlong program for adults. She can also do presentations at individual agencies.

**Nancy-** Meet with Pastor John and Janice at Hope Haven. It was a positive meeting. He has also had a warehouse donated to Hope Haven and will be figuring out the best use for it. He will let MMCN store items in there that we may want to give out the night of the homeless count.

**Linda-** She has been working on getting 22 silhouettes made up. They will have positive messages, personal content, and signs of PTSD on them. They represent the 22 suicide deaths of veterans each day to raise awareness on this issue. They will be displayed at USM, The Armory, and in the Memorial Day parade. She is working on fundraising at this point. It's about \$125 per silhouette. We discussed fundraising ideas.

- "Thank you for your Service" will be showing at the Brunswick Regal on December 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm. You can reserve tickets on line. There has to be enough people in order to show it.
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**Betty Ann-** Recent elect for House of Representatives for Auburn and Minot. She submitted her first bill which is to expand the Veteran's Court to Androscoggin County.

**Jim-** Discussed the Veteran's Choice Program. He had handouts that explained the program. If you live more than 40 miles from a VA, can't get an appointment within 30 days then you can use the Choice Program to be able to see another doctor in your area. Pre approval is needed. They have also made some changes to the response from Health Net. They typically had 14 days to reply now it is 5 days. If there is no reply within 5 days it gets kicked back.

**Jamie-** The homeless vigil is December 21 at 4:30 pm at Trinity Jubilee and ends at 5:30 at the Calvary Church

**Phil-** National Work Cue is using more technology so they have fewer claims and are using the technology to help prioritize and be more efficient.

**Donna-** Discussed My VA which is program to help bring the VA to communities and be available to help veteran's where they are at. They focus on bringing groups together

and engaging with communities.

**Scott-** The Army/Navy games/cookout is on December 10<sup>th</sup> at the Lewiston Vet Center.

**Kyra-** They fulfilled 93 Thanksgiving baskets for veterans and their families.

**Amv-** Discussed the 2017 MMCN Conference which will be held at the Augusta Civic Center on July 20<sup>th</sup>. The space has already been reserved. We discussed what the tracks were last year and what they could be this year. We talked about forming a subcommittee to work on the plans for this conference. The subcommittee will meet December 9<sup>th</sup> at 12 pm at Tri County Mental Health. If you are interested in the planning please be at this meeting. If you want to be part of this committee but can't make it to this meeting please let Jerry know so you can be included in the minutes.

**Next L/A MMCN Meeting  
December, 21<sup>st</sup>  
1 P.M.  
Tri County Mental Health**