

DEKALB COUNTY

VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

OCTOBER 13, 2008

The meeting started at 7:00 with President Rich Joslin presiding. There were 22 people in attendance. President Joslin made a couple of opening remarks and immediately turned the meeting over to Congressman Bill Foster. Congressman Foster introduced himself and told us that he had been a scientist at Fermi Lab and also owned a business in the Midwest. He has been talking to veteran groups and said that in the long run the GI bill will pay for itself. He is a member of the financial services committee and would like to see more spending on long term goals such as energy and veterans health issues. He would like to see a check off box on the federal 1040 form for helping veteran's families. He is very interested in funding for the VA as there has been a great increase in amputees in Iraq and Afghanistan veterans compared to Vietnam Veterans because of quick response times. He spent a lot of time answering veterans' questions. Congressman Foster spoke for over an hour and then had to leave.

President Joslin called the meeting back to order at 8:25, and we had a short business session. Among those present were Superintendent Herb Holderman, President Rich Joslin, Secretary Steve Walz, Treasurer John Davis, Steve Scoughton, Tammy Anderson, Frank Beierlotzer, and Don Jones.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and seconded by Steve Scoughton. The minutes were approved.

John Davis gave the commission finance report, and we have \$2115.08 in the account. The report was seconded by Frank Beierlotzer. The finance report was approved.

Superintendent Holderman told us about a veteran's memorial in Marseilles, Illinois to honor those who have died in Middle East conflicts. There will be a convoy of military vehicles coming through De Kalb and they would like to have people lining the streets with flags to cheer them on. Heritage Woods is honoring all veterans with a pancake breakfast on November 11 and would like to have a rifle salute team there and color guard. Herb also had three raffle tickets from the Glidden Homestead, worth \$10 a piece and wanted to know if we should buy them. Frank Beierlotzer made the motion to buy them and this was seconded by Steve Skopek. The motion was approved. The commission helped 26 veterans with food, shelter and transportation. The total cost was \$10,154.28. Frank Beierlotzer made the motion to pay the bills and this was seconded by Don McMillen. The bills were paid. The expected budget for 2009 was \$640,000. Frank Beierlotzer made the motion to accept the budget and this was seconded by Steve Skopek. The motion was passed.

Frank Beierlotzer informed us that November 22, between 12 and 1 P.M. there will be a turkey dinner for the deploying troops and their families at the Sycamore Veterans home and they would like some help.

Rodger Glass has had a second operation for brain tumors but is having trouble with swelling of the brain.

Frank Beierlotzer made the motion to adjourn at 9:10.

Respectfully Submitted

Steve Walz, Secretary