**UUP Veterans Affairs Committee Meeting at Delegate Assy in Albany**

**February 3, 2014 10:00 AM**

Attending: Tom Hogle, Gina Doty, William Borgstede, Cliff DaVis, Mike Knee, Kathy Southerton, Louis Scala, Roosevelt Wardlaw

1. Regalia Cords: We have been discussing this topic for a few months in which these red, white and blue regalia cords are distributed to the UUP campus offices/or the chapter presidents, and our members who are veterans can wear them with their regalia for their graduation ceremonies. This is a voluntary action to show that you are a veteran. We will ask for the seed money from UUP to pay for them and if campuses like the idea of having their veteran UUP members wearing them, they will have the information to purchase them. We’d like to purchase the cords and send them to our SUNY UUP campuses before May commencements occur. The committee will have a short article in “The Voice” explaining the project. Gina will send a short email to our liaison, Ray Gleason to solicit the money from UUP executive board first, then ensure something gets into,” The Voice”.

\*\*The cost of the regalia cords that SUNY Morrisville already uses at their graduations is $525.00 including shipping and handling. The cords are $4.95 each and we are requesting 100 cords for this project and if campuses would like to purchase more, we’ll give them the Trim and Tassels company information.

1. Wounded Warriors: Tom Hogle from SUNY Morrisville announced that his campus is having a lacrosse game against Keuka Community College to raise money for “Wounded Warrior”, which benefits wounded veterans and their families. This committee would like to ask the UUP Executive Board for $100 to sponsor a player, and the player would wear UUP Veterans Affairs Committee on their t-shirt while playing the game. Gina will send an email to Ray Gleason, our liaison for this action.
2. Veteran Students in Trouble and Campus Resources: At our last meeting we learned about a student veteran that was in a mental crisis of some kind and spoke to a professor and the end result is the student ended their own life. Gina discussed what resources her campus has for any student in trouble and there are multiple resources to use at her Plattsburgh campus. Kathy S. shared what Stonybrook campus is doing for behavioral assessment services. Louis S. thought that we should bring this topic up at the UUP Executive Council meeting to ask chapter presidents what resources do they have to address students in distress. If anything, this could be an awareness that some campuses have many resources and some have areas for improvement. Gina will bring this up with Ray Gleason.
3. New York City Veterans Day Parade November 2013: Bob Kasprak could not attend today’s meeting so Gina will contact him for how did the parade go? Bob solicited funds on our behalf from the Solidarity Committee to purchase the annual large floral wreath with UUP Veterans Affairs ribbon on it to support this important day.
4. Future Article Idea for “The Voice”: Tom Hogle will write an article about the fund raising initiative at his campus for Wounded Warrior Project. His campus at SUNY Morrisville and Keuka Community College has a lacrosse game in April 2014.
5. Miscellaneous topics: We discussed the idea that chapters on their own solicit donations at their chapter union meetings on occasion for “Wounded Warrior Project”. A box could be placed in a specific location and removed at the end of the meeting and deposited.

*Side note: While at this DA Louis S. asked Rowena Blackman our Treasurer how to handle this money and she said to put it into the “sunshine fund” that many chapters have and write a check to the headquarters for Wounded Warrior Project in Florida.*

\*\*We also discussed the idea to put this project on the vendor sheet that everyone receives when they come to the DA since people always come to our table. Gina will speak with Eileen Landy on this matter.

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

*Meeting notes by Gina Doty*

*Edits Welcome*