

## McLeod County Beyond the Yellow Ribbon (BTYR)

### Meeting Minutes

February 16, 2016

Present: 6 Members

Next meeting: Wednesday, March 16, 2016 North Complex, Glencoe

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#### I. Last Meetings Minutes

1. Resources Update-Chris Sonju
  - a. Chris explained how the McLeod For Tomorrow (MFT) student leadership group is working with McLeod County BTYR to help gather and build the resource list.
  - b. Each student has been challenged to add one resource to the list by the end of the school year as a service project for MFT.
2. Annual Recognition Event
  - a. There was a discussion about how to expand our "Welcome Home/ Thank You" gift bag that we will give to each veteran who has returned home to McLeod County in the past year (Aug. 1, 2015 – July 31, 2016).
    - i. The gift bag is to show each new veteran our appreciation from the county as a whole. Ideas are gift cards for restaurants/gas/stores throughout the county.
    - ii. It was suggested that we challenge another organization, such as the Lion's Clubs to assist us in collecting items for the gift bags.
  - b. There was a discussion about how to expand our small recognition event at the McLeod County Fair.
    - i. It was suggested to recognize veterans by era that they served.
    - ii. It was also suggested that we have a service organization present the colors.
    - iii. A suggestion was made to somehow recognize or involve the stakeholders who helped make to fair event possible.
3. Stakeholder Open Forum
  - a. Foundation for Challenged Children will have their 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Benefit Breakfast at Christ the King Church in Hutchinson on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016, from 8:30am– 1:00pm. Please see flyer for additional information
  - b. If your organization/ business has an upcoming event you would like the McLeod County BTYR to send out to our network, please email the information to [mcleodbtyr@gmail.com](mailto:mcleodbtyr@gmail.com) or bring an informational flyer to our next stakeholder meeting.

#### II. Additional Notes

1. Joining Community Forces-MN Conference Series – This free and is open to anyone who is interested. Please attached flier for details. Cassandra will be going to the St Cloud event so if anyone is interested in riding along please let her know.
2. Veterans Day at the State Fair- This year's theme is Beyond the Yellow Ribbon, so each Yellow Ribbon Network is invited to participate by carrying a banner in the parade leading up to the opening ceremony. Please see a copy of the attached email message that we received. If anyone is interested in participating in the parade please let us know by March 25<sup>th</sup> so we can reserve our banner and spot.