

FY-2024 3rd (Apr - Jun) Quarter Report

Oneida Nation Veteran Affairs Committee (ONVAC)

Approved by official entity action on: July 9, 2024

Submitted by: John Breuninger

OBC Liaison: Jennifer Webster

OBC Liaison Alternate: Larry Barton

OBC Liaison Alternate: Jonas Hill

OBC Liaison Alternate: Jameson Wilson

PURPOSE

The PURPOSE of the Oneida Nation Veteran Affairs Committee (ONVAC) is to serve as an advisory body to the Oneida Nation's Veteran Services Office in all matters related to the Oneida Nation's veteran's rights, benefits, veteran affairs issues, and to protect the honor and integrity of the Oneida Nation and all veterans who have served honorably in the United States Uniformed Services. It is the PURPOSE of the ONVAC to assist the Tribal Veterans Services Officer (TVSO) in the formulation and administration of veteran's programs, services, ceremonies, and events as necessary, and to be the advocates for the Chartered Veterans Organizations and other organized veteran groups located on the Oneida Reservation. Furthermore, the ONVAC shall represent the Oneida Nation at the request of the elected Oneida Business Committee (OBC) who have appointed each member to the ONVAC. Finally, the ONVAC shall serve as the responsible party for the management of the Veteran's Memorial site to be officially named by the Oneida Land Commission, in the near future.

AUTHORITY

ONVAC was established by the Oneida Business Committee (OBC) by motion on January 12, 1994 and further established through the adoption of bylaws on October 29, 1997, which were amended on February 13, 2013 and again on November 14, 2023, which the ONVAC approved. The updated bylaws are currently in the process of being approved by the OBC.

BCC MEMBERS

John Breuninger
Secretary
12/31/2025

Vacant
Member
12/31/2027

Gerald Cornelius
Chair
12/31/2025

Floyd Hill II
Vice-Chair
12/31/2026

Dale Webster
Member
12/31/2025

Deke Suri
Member
12/31/2026

Lynn Summers
Member
12/31/2026

Benjamin Skenandore
Member
12/31/2027

Kerry Metoxen
Member
12/31/2027

**Connor Kestell
Member
12/31/2023 – Filling in until vacancy is filled

MEETINGS

Held every 2nd Tuesday of each month.

5:00 P.M

Oneida Veteran Services Office 134 Riverdale Dr., Oneida, Wisconsin

Emergency Meetings: Zero (0)

CONTACT INFORMATION

CONTACT: Gerald Cornelius/John Breuninger

TITLE: ONVAC Chair & Secretary

PHONE NUMBER: (920)615-6521 / (920)562-7536

E-MAIL: onv-gcor@oneidanation.org & onv-jbre@oneidanation.org

MAIN WEBSITE: <https://oneida-nsn.gov/government/boards-committees-and-commissions/appointed/#Oneida-Nation-Veterans-Affairs-Committee>

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

ACCOMPLISHMENT #1

Summary:

Color Guard Activities: Including the 2024 Pow Wow grand entries, the ONVAC presented the colors at 12 activities this quarter. A full listing may be made available upon request.

Impact:

Service to the Oneida People as well as representing the veterans of our community by providing honor to all who have served in the United States Uniformed Services. Taking the leadership role in ceremonies, meetings, funerals, etc., the ONVAC continues to "give back" to the People and community who have supported us for our service. We are recognized as representatives of our Oneida Nation and the United States when we participate in the presentation of the colors at various activities.

Accomplishment #2

Summary:

The ONVAC sponsored the annual Code Talkers Golf Outing on May 24th and the event was a great success. Eighty players participated and ONVAC was very pleased to indicate that we had 12 volunteers who assisted with the event as well as the Oneida Royalty.

Impact:

Community engagement and celebrations within our community, showing our veterans are supporting our community. Furthermore, recognizing our four known Oneida Code Talkers keeps the recognition of these individuals and their respective families, along with the ONVAC well within the community's memories.

Accomplishment #3

Summary:

Four Eagle Feathers were presented within the Quarter with ONVAC being the supporters. These four Eagle Feathers went to: Joe Valentino, Floyd Hill, Lynn Summers and the fourth being placed upon the VFW's Eagle Staff in recognition and memory of Gordon Cornelius by his son Bruce Cornelius.

Impact:

In giving we shall receive. Our Oneida Nation Veterans support activities both within and outside of our communities, thereby providing support to the needs and desires of our larger geographic area.

Accomplishment #4

Summary:

Community Breakfast: Each Friday morning, the Oneida Veteran Service Office staff and veteran volunteers (including ONVAC members) prepare and serve breakfast to the veterans and Oneida community members. This breakfast is financed by donations from the attendees.

Impact:

Camaraderie brings a group of people with like interests together to meet, celebrate, visit and EAT! The community breakfasts at the Oneida Veterans Service Office are just the place for all of the above. Starting off as a kind gesture for our community veterans, the breakfast activity now brings many people together each week and, also provides a forum for educational opportunities for the community.

GOALS

Long-term Goal #1

Strengthen veteran participation in the Oneida community by the continuation of programs and services which are currently being provided and continuously being available to assist wherever and whenever there is a need.

Responsiveness – Availability to the public and timeous reaction to the needs and opinions of the public.

Update on Goal:

ONVAC members continue to be available to our People and community. We participate in community activities which enhance the community's quality of life.

Short-term Goal #1

Continue to support the efforts to enhance the Veteran Memorial (site) by working with the Oneida Land Commission on the Lease and Naming of the site. Furthermore, working with Tourism and the Oneida Engineering Department on enhancements and improvements as well as replacement of the "paver bricks" and the addition of two new monuments.

Consensus Oriented – Public participation in the planning and implementation of the enhancements with all veterans as well as the Oneida community by providing continuous updates through meetings and multi-media outlets and publications.

Update on Goal:

An "all veteran" meeting was held discussing the Veteran Memorial (site) enhancements currently being completed (construction) with additional meetings as the projects continue. The ONVAC has representatives in the two chartered veteran organizations (VFW & WIVA) and their continuous discussions, plans, etc. continue to occur.

STIPENDS

Per the Boards, Committees, and Commissions law, stipends are set via OBC resolution. BC resolution 04-13-22-B sets the stipend amounts.

	Total dollar amount paid	Number of stipend type		
		Regular Mtg	Emergency Mtg	Hearings/Other
April 2024	\$525	1		
May 2024	\$675	1		
June 2024	\$525	1		

BUDGET

FY-2024 BUDGET: \$56,874

FY-2024 EXPENDITURES AS OF END OF REPORTING PERIOD: [Click here to enter Expenditures](#)

The ONVAC is working on ribbon shirt designs and caps to procure within this next quarter. Our last enhancements were ten (10) years ago. We will again be sponsoring and hosting the Annual Code Talkers Golf Outing – May 24, 2024, procurement of new flags, travel to requested events/conferences such as; Ira Hayes Memorial and Wisconsin’s State of Nations Report.

REQUESTS

None at this time

OTHER

None at this time