



La Crosse Vet Center
20 Copeland Ave
La Crosse, WI 54603
PH: 608-782-4403



The Board of Park Commissioners:
City Hall
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

October 10, 2018

Re: Veteran's Day Almost 5K

Dear Board Members,

On behalf of the La Crosse Vet Center, I am writing to request permission to use the trails near the Vet Center on Copeland Avenue for our first annual Veteran's Day Almost 5K to bring awareness to Vet Center services. The fun run will be free of charge and no advanced registration will be required. I would like to request the board waive the trail fee as we are not obtaining monetary gain for this run. The run will take place on the trails and we will not be using roadways during the run. The run will begin and end near the Vet Center office. Following the run, we will have small snacks and refreshments; along with an Open House where all participants, community members, and families are invited to attend.

Along with the fee waiver, we would request permission to use the following trails:

- Riverside North Trail are to Lang Drive to Monitor Street to the trail next to Festival Foods and return to the Vet Center office located at 20 Copeland Avenue.

Vet Centers are community based programs and fall under Veterans Health Administration. The goal of the Vet Center programs is to provide a broad range of counseling (individual, family, couples, group), outreach, and referral services to eligible veterans and service members in assistance with a positive post deployment to civilian life. Vet Center program was established by Congress in 1979 out of the recognition that a considerable number of Vietnam era veterans were still experiencing readjustment issues. Over time Congress has extended eligibility to encompass other war-era veterans, but has maintained the premise of "combat" veterans. Legislation has continued to expand eligibility to survivors of military sexual trauma, active duty members, drone operators, as well as medical personnel that have been in contact with casualties of the wars.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kari Porter, LPC
Director
La Crosse Vet Center