



American Legion
MEL BAHER
COMMISSIONER



American Veterans
FRANK POCCHI
COMMISSIONER



Disabled American Veterans
DANIEL T. WEIST
COMMISSIONER



Veterans of Foreign Wars
THOMAS T. K. ZUNG
COMMISSIONER



Vietnam Veterans of America
BOB POTTS
COMMISSIONER

ROBERT SCHLOENDORN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission

Ph: (216) 698-2600 • Fax: (216) 698-2650
Email: vsc_mail@cuyahogacounty.us
1849 Prospect Avenue • Suite 150 • Cleveland, OH 44115



MINUTES

DATE: May 5, 2010 9:32 a.m.

PRESENT: Daniel T. Weist, President
Frank Pocci, Secretary
Thomas Zung, Commissioner
Bob Potts, Commissioner
Robert E. Schloendorn, Executive Director
Thomas O'Donnell, Asst. County Prosecutor

ABSENT: Mel Baher, Vice President

VISITORS: Art Stone, VFW #7647/American Legion #451

PURPOSE: GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING

The meeting was called to order by the President, Dan Weist, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Frank Pocci and seconded by Thomas Zung to dispense with the reading of the Consent Agenda and to accept the agenda with the necessary corrections and/or additions. (All Commissioners have a copy of the minutes.)

AYES: Pocci, Potts, Weist, Zung. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Thomas Zung – VFW

- Euclid VFW Post 1056 held its monthly meeting, noting that several members have been hospitalized. The Memorial Day Parade and the sale of poppies at Dave's Supermarkets were discussed. Plans are being made to contact the County Auditor to inquire about relieving the post of property taxes on our facility since the building is half vacant.
- Euclid VFW Post 1056 hosted the CCVSC Spring meeting on Wednesday, April 21st at 7:00 p.m. There was a nice turnout with many of the veteran guests asking questions. The next outreach Board meeting will be held at the Strongsville VFW Post on a Thursday evening in September or October.
- I attended the eighth "Rally for Troops" at Public Square on Sunday, May 2nd, taking the Shaker rapid trolley from Shaker Square to Tower City. A very big crowd of bikers from the Vietnam Era participated honoring the troops that served. It was quite a sight and an event that everyone should experience at least once in their lives.

Bob Potts – VVA

- April 6th, I attended my monthly board meeting. Discussion took place concerning the election of new officers for the upcoming year.
- April 8th, I attended the American Legion Post 91 membership meeting.
- April 9-10th, I attended the OSAVSC Spring Conference in Dublin, Ohio.
- April 20th, I attended the monthly membership meeting. The election of new officers for 2010 was held and I was re-elected 1st Vice President.
- April 23rd, our speaker bureau went to Lakewood High School where we did a presentation on the Vietnam Experience. We had ten chapter members who participated in the day long event. It turned out to be a great day with good questions asked by the sophomore history students.
- April 30th, I attended the End of the War Ceremony in downtown Cleveland on Mall C. The ceremony started with the reading of the 423 men from Cuyahoga County that were KIA in Vietnam. Members of the Vietnamese community were in attendance at the ceremony.
- May 4th, I attended the monthly board meeting. Final plans were discussed for the Memorial Day Parade in Bay Village.

Frank Pocci – AMVETS

- May 4th, I gave my financial report for the month of April at the AMVETS Post 80 General meeting.
- AMVETS Post 80 had honor guard duties at the Western Reserve National Cemetery in Rittman, Ohio on April 6th.
- The AMVETS 20th district meeting was held on April 13th at Mentor Post 40.
- April 9-10th, I attended the OSAVSC Spring Conference in Dublin, Ohio.
- During a 5K walk for the Providence House on April 11th, I had the opportunity to talk to several people regarding the benefits and services to veterans at the CCVSC.
- April 21st, I participated in the VSC open public meeting held offsite at VFW Post 1056 in Euclid, Ohio at 7:00 p.m.
- April 25th, I attended the Italian American War Veterans (ITAM) Dept. of Ohio meeting in Youngstown, Ohio. As state adjutant, I gave my report which was approved.
- April 30th, ITAM Post 34 (Cleveland) held its monthly meeting and a new member was introduced, bring the total membership to 48. Though the membership is relatively small for this post, the meetings are well-attended with an average of 40-50% participation.
- May 4th, AMVETS Post 80 held its election of officers. I was re-elected finance officer and appointed as service officer.

Dan Weist – DAV

- I attended the OSAVSC Spring Conference in Dublin, Ohio from April 9-10th.
- April 21st, I attended our open public Board meeting at VFW Post 1056 in Euclid, Ohio at 7:00 p.m.
- I was elected Quartermaster for North Olmsted VFW Post 7647.

OLD BUSINESS:

Frank Pocci is conferring with Strongsville VFW Post 3345 to confirm a date for our Fall open public meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

CCVSC Commissioners and Executive Director have been invited to attend a ground-breaking ceremony for the Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center's Parma Outpatient Clinic on May 24, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. The ceremony will be held at 8701 Brookpark Road, Parma, Ohio 44129.

The Board is in the process of reviewing current policies and guidelines and making revisions when necessary.

A motion was made by Frank Pocci and seconded by Bob Potts to accept revisions to the following addendums to the Guideline for Restrictive Assistance, as read by the Executive Director: Assistance for Those Released from Incarceration, and Assistance for Child or Children Only.

AYES: Pocci, Potts, Weist, Zung. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Frank Pocci and seconded by Bob Potts to accept the Executive Director's recommendation to grant pay increases for two staff members as a result of obtaining state accreditation with the Ohio Dept. of Veterans Services effective April 12, 2010.

AYES: Pocci, Potts, Weist, Zung. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Bob Potts and seconded by Frank Pocci to accept Resolution 2010-02; A resolution to set the compensation for newly appointed and reappointed veterans service commissioners.

AYES: Pocci, Potts, Weist, Zung. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

President Weist opened the floor to visitors for any comments or questions. The following bullet points were topics of discussion.

Art Stone

- VFW 7th District Memorial on the Lake at the Cod will be May 30th at 10:00 a.m.
- Harding Middle School will hold an appreciation of veterans on May 27th at 7:30 a.m. for the Memorial Day weekend
- North Olmsted VFW Memorial Day Parade will be at 11:00 a.m. with a fly-over by WWII planes
- City of Cleveland's Memorial Day Parade will be May 21st honoring deceased veterans and police officers

The Executive Director noted that ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease) is recognized as a presumptively compensable illness for all veterans with 90 days or more of continuous active service in the military.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There were no items for Executive Session.

With no further business, a motion was made by Bob Potts and seconded by Frank Pocci to adjourn the meeting at 10:04 a.m.

AYES: Pocci, Potts, Weist, Zung. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Daniel T. Weist, President

Frank Pocci, Secretary

CONTACT INFORMATION

Requests for Financial Assistance: Jennifer Mazzeo, Manager/Senior Investigator (216-698-2621)

Filing claims with the Dept. of Veterans' Affairs: John Murphy, Service Officer Manager (216-698-2637)

Memorial Affairs: Laurene Rutkowski, Manager (216-698-2655)

Social Work Dept.: Terry Walker, Manager, Social Worker/Case Management (216-698-2379)

Executive Director: Bob Schloendorn (216-698-2611)

Commissioners: Lorri Slivka, Secretary to the Board (216-698-2646)