



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

JAMES L. STOLZ
SERVICE OFFICER MANAGER

Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission

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1849 Prospect Avenue • Room 200 • Cleveland, OH 44115



MINUTES

DATE: July 2, 2008 9:32 a.m.

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

VISITORS: Richard Danielson, Korean War Veterans of America Post #69 and Art Stone, American Legion Post 451/VFW 7th District.

PURPOSE: GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING

The meeting was called to order by President Frank Pocci followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Dan Weist and seconded by Bob Potts to dispense with the reading of the minutes of June 18, 2008 and to accept the minutes with the necessary corrections and/or additions. (All Commissioners have a copy of the minutes.)

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

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Bob Potts to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Level III Board Appeals meeting of June 25, 2008 and to accept the minutes with the necessary corrections and/or additions. (All Commissioners have a copy of the minutes.)

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

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Bob Potts to dispense with the reading of the correspondence since we have a Consent Agenda, with the exception of those items set aside, to be addressed during the regular order of business, and with any corrections and/or additions. (No items were set aside.)

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

The vote on cases approved and denied on the Consent Agenda was postponed to the next Board Meeting on July 16th.

Agenda Item E1. Commissioners' Reports

Bob Potts - VVA

- I attended my monthly membership meeting on June 17th. This is the last meeting until September because of summer vacations.
- On June 18th I was present for CCVSC's open public meeting at VFW Post #1056 in Euclid.
- June 27th our Speaker's Bureau was invited to Willow Brook Special Education School to talk with the students. This is a school of all special education students.
- July 1st I attended our monthly board meeting. We are looking for new ways to help out our fellow veterans.
- Friday, July 4th, our chapter will march in the Lakewood Fourth of July Parade. We form up at Kenneth & Lake Road and march to Lakewood Park.

Thomas Zung - VFW

- VFW District #7 held their 2008 Spring Conference for veteran members & Women's Auxiliary from June 13-15th at the Holiday Inn, Westlake. Art Stone was elected the new District Commander with outgoing Cmdr. Clayton Udell handing over the baton. The conference dinner was limited in space because the Holiday Inn scheduled a big wedding for that same night.
- On June 18th the CCVSC held their open public meeting at VFW Post #1056 in Euclid. All were invited and the post had several guests. Refreshments were served after the meeting. Cmdr. Ed Morrow was very appreciative that the CCVSC chose their post to conduct their Board meeting.
- The Village of Bratenahl plans to have their own fireworks for the July 4th holiday and to hold a special tribute at the village kiosk to the servicemen and women serving in Iraq, Afghanistan, and elsewhere in the military. All are invited to attend the festivities. Refreshments, popcorn, and hotdogs will be served.

Mel Baher – American Legion

- June 1st – I attended the 13th District Council Summer Convention at Post 610 at 10:00 a.m. where I serve as the Credentials Chairman. New District officers were elected for the ensuing membership year.
- June 5th – My wife and I celebrated our 32nd anniversary.
- June 12th – I conducted the American Legion Membership Meeting at 8:00 p.m. where I serve as Post Commander.
- June 14th – I conducted Flag Day ceremonies at Post 91 at 7:00 p.m.
- June 18th – I attended CCVSC's open public meeting at VFW Post #1056 in Euclid.
- June 23rd – I attended the 13th District Executive Board Meeting as Post Commander.

- June 26th – I conducted Post 91’s Executive Board Meeting as Post Commander.
- Upcoming Events for July 2008:
 - 1) 13th District Council meeting - July 2nd at Post 703 at 8:00 p.m.
 - 2) Post 91 Membership meeting - July 10th at 8:00 p.m.
 - 3) American Legion State Convention - July 11-13th

Dan Weist – DAV

- DAV meetings have been suspended for the summer. The next meeting will take place the second Thursday in September.
- June 14th – I assisted in a Flag Burning Ceremony at the N. Olmsted VFW. This ceremony was held in conjunction with the Knights of Columbus ceremony. It was quite impressive and very well attended.
- June 17th – Met with Col. Blue and Chief Public Affairs Officer Greg Becker at the CCVSC office and provided them with a tour of the office and an explanation of services and benefits to veterans.
- June 18th - I attended CCVSC’s Board meeting at VFW Post #1056 in Euclid.
- June 20th - I attended a DARE fundraiser in North Olmsted.
- June 24th – At the request of the Commanding General of the Army Recruiting Center I did a presentation on CCVSC services at the Crowne Plaza in downtown Cleveland.
- I will be participating in the USO golf outing that is scheduled to be held in September. It will be hosted by American Legion Post 211 and N. Olmsted VFW Post 7647.

Frank Pocci – Amvets

- June 18th – I attended the CCVSC open public meeting at VFW Post #1056 in Euclid.
- June 27th - Italian American War Veterans held their State mini-convention. Approximately 35 people were in attendance. New officers were elected: Charles Faroni was elected State Commander and I was elected State Adjutant.
- July 1st – I attended the AMVETS meeting in Maple Hts., Ohio

OLD BUSINESS:

Agenda Item F1. Executive Director - Submitting Personnel Requests.

No items were submitted.

NEW BUSINESS:

Agenda Item G1. Additional Level III Board Appeal Meeting – July 30th

The Board deferred discussion on this item to the July 16th Board meeting.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Executive Director Report

The RFP for the new office space should be ready within the next two weeks.

The County Planning Commission reported that a solid 23% of the military veterans responded to our survey concerning the long-term healthcare needs of Northeast Ohio veterans. They are in the process of doing a statistical interpretation of the survey and the results will be forthcoming.

We received the Ohio State Association of CVSC's and CVSO's Annual Report of Statistics for all counties for 2007. Bob noted that Cuyahoga County VSC is the leader in burial expenses with an amount of \$188,337.00.

Cuyahoga County Administrator Dennis Madden is leaving the county to head up the medical mart effort for Merchandise Mart Properties, Inc. On behalf of the Board, Bob wrote a letter to Dennis congratulating him on his new position.

Bob is in the process of reviewing applications for the position of service officer: one experienced service officer and two trainees are needed to fill the vacancies in the Service Department.

Due to the gas crisis, Bob asked the Board to consider a possible four-day workweek. During discussion, other options were suggested including a mid-year COLA and alternate work days off. It was agreed to have Bob meet with staff to discuss all options and report back to the Board at the next meeting.

Frank Pocci opened the floor to visitors for any comments or questions.

Richard Danielson

- CCVSC Advisory Committee

Art Stone

- Revision of Ohio Revised Code 5901
- Art - new 7th District Commander of the VFW
- New State Commander is from the City of Cleveland

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Thomas Zung to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues.

AYES: Potts, Zung, Baher, Weist, Pocci. NAYS: None. Motion carried. (10:30 a.m.)

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Bob Potts to come out of Executive Session and return to the regular order of business.

AYES: Potts, Zung, Baher, Weist, Pocci. NAYS: None. Motion carried. (11:10 a.m.)

Vacancies in the Service Department and options for the workweek were discussed. No action was taken.

With no further business, a motion was made by Dan Weist and seconded by Bob Potts to adjourn the meeting at 11:12 a.m.

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

Frank Pocci
President

Thomas Zung
Secretary

CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Filing claims with the Dept. of Veterans' Affairs: Jim Stolz, Service Officer Manager (216-698-2639)

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

Mobile Meals Program Jeff Sedlak, Social Worker/Case Management Officer (216-698-2615)

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

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