



American Legion
MEL BAHER
COMMISSIONER



American Veterans
FRANK POCCHI
COMMISSIONER



Disabled American Veterans
DANIEL T. WEIST
COMMISSIONER



Veterans of Foreign Wars
CLAYTON E. UZELL
COMMISSIONER



Vietnam Veterans of America
BOB POTTS
COMMISSIONER

JON REISS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission

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1849 Prospect Avenue • Suite 150 • Cleveland, OH 44115



MINUTES

DATE: October 1, 2014 9:30 a.m.

PRESENT: Clayton E. Uzell, President
Daniel T. Weist, Vice President
Mel Baher, Secretary
Bob Potts, Commissioner
Lorri Slivka, Executive Secretary
Brian Gutkoski, Asst. County Prosecutor

EXCUSED: Frank Pocci, Commissioner

VISITORS: Mick Panek

PURPOSE: GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING

The meeting was called to order by President Clay Uzell 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 Consent Agenda and to accept the agenda with the necessary corrections and/or additions. (All Commissioners have a copy of the minutes.)

AYES: Baher, Potts, Uzell, Weist. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mel Baher – American Legion

- Sunday, September 7th – I attended the American Legion 13th District Fall Conference at the FOP Hall, Payne Ave., Cleveland, Ohio at 10:00 a.m. I presented the financial reports for August 2014 as the District Finance Officer.
- Thursday, September 11th – I was master of ceremonies for the 13th annual commemoration of Patriot Day on the Berea Triangle at 9:00 a.m. The event was well-attended by the citizens of Berea and surrounding communities.
- Thursday, September 11th – I attended the American Legion Post 91 membership meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- Friday, September 19th – I attended the annual POW-MIA ceremony held at American Legion Post 91 on its pavilion at 7:00 p.m.

- Monday, September 22nd – I attended the American Legion 13th District executive board meeting at 7:30 p.m. held at the FOP Hall, Payne Ave., Cleveland, Ohio. I presented updated financial reports as District Finance Officer.
- Thursday, September 25th – I attended the American Legion Post 91 executive board meeting where I serve as an elected board member.

Upcoming Events:

- Wednesday, October 1st – the American Legion 13th District Council meeting is scheduled at the American Legion Post 343 in Euclid, Ohio at 7:30 p.m. I will be presenting financial reports for September 2014 as District Finance Officer.
- Thursday, October 9th – American Legion Post 91 membership meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday, October 23rd – American Legion Post 91 executive committee meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m.
- Monday, October 27th – American Legion 13th District executive board meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. at the American Legion Post 343 in Euclid, Ohio.

Bob Pots – VVA

- September 2nd – I attended the VVA Chapter 249 board meeting and membership meeting.
- September 3rd – I attended the CCVSC open public board meeting.
- September 10th – I attended the CCVSC Level III appeal hearings.
- September 17th – I attended the CCVSC open public board meeting.

Other Outreach:

- I talked with veterans while at the CBOC regarding services offered by the CCVSC.
- While at the Eastside Vet Center, I had discussion with the manager regarding outreach with the CCVSC and also talked with veterans regarding services.

Dan Weist – DAV

- I attended both open public Board meetings and both Level III Appeal hearings during the month of September.
- I attended the VFW monthly meeting on Wednesday, September 17th.
- I transported four veterans to the Wade Park VA for their medical appointments.

Clayton Uzell – VFW

- September 3rd – I attended the CCVSC open public Board meeting.
- September 7th – I participated in the Lyndhurst Home Days Parade and drove the CCVSC van. I conducted the re-dedication ceremony for the Veterans Memorial in the park along with the Mayor of Lyndhurst. The District 7 Commander and Ladies Auxiliary President placed the wreaths. There was a flag raising ceremony by Strongsville Post 3345 Honor Guard.
- September 10th – I attended the CCVSC Level III appeals meeting.
- September 15th – I attended the VFW 7536 Post meeting. The Post passed an inspection that was performed.
- September 17th – I attended the CCVSC open public meeting.
- September 19th – I attended a POW/MIA dinner and vigil in recognition of National POW/MIA Day at VFW Post 9473 in Reynoldsburg.
- September 20th – I attended a recognition dinner and POW/MIA salute at VFW Post 3332 in Newton Falls.
- September 22nd – I attended a past president's dinner at Parma VFW Post 1974 and called bingo for the ladies.
- September 24th – I attended the CCVSC Level III Appeals hearings.

- September 25th & 26th – I, along with the National Ladies Auxiliary President, Ann Panteleakos, arrived for the Ohio visit and attended the Founder's Day ceremonies in Reynoldsburg, Ohio. We toured the State Capitol and then went to the Verne Riffe Bldg. to visit the Veterans Hall of Fame and then met with the State Veterans Service Director, Timothy C. Gorrell.
- September 27th – I attended the Founder's Day Parade at Greenlawn Cemetery in Columbus and marched with District 7 colors. The guest speakers were National Past Cmdr. John Moon and the Ladies Auxiliary President Ann Panteleakous. I attended the banquet held at the VFW Post 9857 in Columbus.
- I referred two clients and brought one client to the CCVSC office to re-file a claim.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Executive Director presented his monthly budget review. September's projections show a three-month average of \$216,910.76 with a remaining budget of \$650,732.00.

The Executive Director proposed that the current employee step pay schedule be eliminated in 2015. A cost of living increase and merit increases for deserving individuals will still be a consideration. After further discussion, a motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Bob Potts to eliminate the employee step pay schedule effective January 1, 2015.

AYES: Baher, Potts, Uzell, Weist. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

The OSAVSC Fall Conference will be held from November 21-23, 2014 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Dublin, Ohio. All commissioners will be attending.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Clay Uzell will be attending the VFW District 7 Conference at the Lyndhurst Community Center on October 5, 2014 at 10:30 a.m.

The CCVSC fall outreach meeting will be held at VFW Post 1974, 4305 Woodrow, Parma, Ohio on Wednesday, November 19, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

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

Mick Panek


- Home Depot has dedicated parking spots for veterans

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There were no items for discussion in Executive Session.

With no further business, a motion was made by Dan Weist and seconded by Bob Potts to adjourn the meeting at 10:07 a.m.

AYES: Baher, Potts, Uzell, Weist. NAYS: None. Motion carried.


Clayton E. Uzell, President


Mel Baher, Secretary

CONTACT INFORMATION

Requests for Financial Assistance: Jennifer Mazzeo, Manager/Senior Investigator (216-698-2621)
Filing claims with the Dept. of Veterans' Affairs: Melinda Halliburton, Service Office Manager (216-698-2639)
Memorial Affairs: Laurene Rutkowski, Manager (216-698-2655)
Social Work Dept.: Terry Walker, Manager, Social Worker/Case Management (216-698-2379)
Executive Director: Jon Reiss (216-698-2611)
Commissioners: Lorri Slivka, Secretary to the Board (216-698-2646)
