



American Legion
MEL BAHER
COMMISSIONER



American Veterans
FRANK POCCI
COMMISSIONER



Disabled American Veterans
DANIEL T. WEIST
COMMISSIONER



Veterans of Foreign Wars
CLAYTON E. UZELL
COMMISSIONER

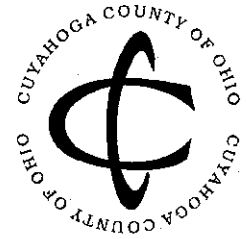


Vietnam Veterans of America
BOB POTTS
COMMISSIONER

ROBERT E. SCHLOENDORN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission

Ph: 216.698.2600 • Fax: 216.698.2650
Email: vscmail@cuyahogacounty.us
1849 Prospect Avenue • Suite 150 • Cleveland, OH 44115



MINUTES

DATE: February 6, 2013 9:30 a.m.

PRESENT: Bob Potts, President
Daniel T. Weist, Secretary
Mel Baher, Commissioner
Frank Pocci, Commissioner
Robert E. Schloendorn, Executive Director
Brian Gutkoski, Asst. County Prosecutor
Lorri Slivka, Executive Secretary

EXCUSED: Clayton E. Uzell, Vice President

VISITORS: Melvin Davis

PURPOSE: GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING

The meeting was called to order by the President, Bob Potts, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Frank Pocci 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, Pocci, Potts, Weist. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Dan Weist – DAV

- I attended both regular meetings of the CCVSC Board and both Level III Appeal hearings for the month of January.
- I attended the monthly meeting of VFW Post 7647.
- DAV Chapter #108 will now be conducting their monthly meetings on the third Thursday of the month at the Rocky River Civic Center at 7:00 p.m. which will no longer conflict with my VFW Post meetings.

Mel Baher – American Legion

- January 2nd – I attended the American Legion 13th District Council meeting held at American Legion Post 738 in Fairview Park. The meeting started at 7:30 p.m. and I presented the District financial reports as District Finance officer.
- January 10th – I attended the American Legion Post 91 membership meeting at 7:00 p.m. I gave the membership report as First Vice Commander.
- January 24th – I attended the American Legion Post 91 executive board meeting held at 7:00 p.m. I gave an updated membership report as First Vice Commander.
- January 28th – I attended the American Legion 13th District e-board meeting at 7:30 p.m. at American Legion Post 738 in Fairview Park.
- February 3rd – I attended a Four Chaplains Memorial Service at 2:00 p.m. at the United Methodist Church in Berea.

Upcoming Events:

- February 6th – The American Legion 13th District Council meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. at American Legion Post 309 in Maple Hts. I will present the District financial report as District Finance officer and give an update on the CCVSC.
- February 14th – The American Legion Post 91 membership meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. I will present an updated membership report.
- February 25th – The American Legion 13th District e-board meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. at American Legion Post 309 in Maple Hts. I will present updated District financial reports as District Finance officer.
- February 28th – the American Legion Post 91 executive board meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. I will present an updated membership report as First Vice Commander.

Frank Pocci – AMVETS

- January 5th – I provided the end of January financial report.
- January 15th – I provided the financial report to the Post at the general meeting.
- A decision has been made to sell the Post in the near future as our funds continue to decrease and will run out in the next three years or so.
- The Post continues to supply its Honor Guard at the Western Reserve National Cemetery.

Other Activities:

- I attended the scheduled meetings at the CCVSC during January.
- I will miss the February 13th meeting as I have been summoned for jury duty.
- I attended the general meeting of the Italian American War Veterans. Our finances were reviewed and a motion was made and carried to make a donation to the Montessori school on Mayfield Road. Thirty-two members were in attendance.
- I met with a group of WWII and Korean War veterans. One of them, who is service connected and wanted his claim reviewed as his injuries are causing him more problems, went to the Parma VA clinic to ask about doing this and someone there told him that it would do him no good as he makes too much money. I advised him that this is not right as income has no bearing on service connected disabilities. I advised him to call and set up a meeting with our service officer at the Parma clinic who would assist him and do all he can to resubmit the claim.

Clay Uzell – VFW (written report submitted prior to the meeting)

- January 2nd – I attended the CCVSC open public meeting.
- January 9th – I attended the CCVSC Level III Appeal hearings.
- January 11th – I conducted a VFW funeral service for a Lyndhurst Post 7536 member who passed away. I presented the family with a flag and case at the DeJohn Funeral Home in South Euclid.
- January 16th – I attended the CCVSC open public meeting.

- January 23rd – I attended the CCVSC Level III Appeal hearings.
- January 24th-27th – I attended the VFW State Conference in Columbus, Ohio. I attended all business sessions. As the Safety Chairman, I gave a report on safety projects turned in by posts throughout the State and attended a luncheon for V.O.D. District winners. I presented awards to the Police and Fire Fighter of the Year at the awards banquet on Saturday night.
- I referred two clients to the CCVSC.

Bob Potts – VVA

- January 2nd – I attended the CCVSC monthly open public meeting.
- January 8th – I attended the Chapter's monthly Board meeting and monthly membership meeting.
- January 9th – I attended the CCVSC first appeals meeting of the month.
- January 14th – I delivered a flag case to a Marine whose father, also a Marine, passed away.
- January 16th – I attended the CCVSC monthly open public meeting.
- January 23rd – I attended the CCVSC second appeals meeting of the month.
- January 25th – I delivered a flag case to the widow of a Korean veteran who was very thankful to receive it.
- January 31st – I visited our VSO's at Wade Park. We discussed requests for bus tickets and the many individuals who come all day asking for them. It has been reported by VA police that some have been selling the tickets once they leave the VA and then get into their own car.

OLD BUSINESS:

Tawinka Sloan and John Moore have been selected for the new VSO-IT positions and will report to work on Monday, February 11th.

NEW BUSINESS:

March 26-29, 2013 marks the first state-wide commemoration of Vietnam Veterans Day in Ohio. Commissioners will decide at the next regular meeting whether to attend.

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Dan Weist to approve the revised Automobile/Home Repair Guideline dated February 6, 2013 as submitted.

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

A motion was made by Frank Pocci and seconded by Mel Baher to approve the revised Guideline for Assisting Students dated February 6, 2013 as submitted.

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

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Dan Weist to approve the revised Guideline for Definition of Unexpected Hardship dated February 6, 2013 as submitted.

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

A motion was made by Frank Pocci and seconded by Mel Baher to approve the revised Guideline for Usual, Customary and Reasonable Expenses dated February 6, 2013 as submitted.

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

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Frank Pocci to approve the revised Guideline for Client Who is Under the Influence of Drugs or Alcohol dated February 6, 2013 as submitted.

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

A motion was made by Frank Pocci and seconded by Mel Baher to approve the revised guideline for Assistance with School Supplies dated February 6, 2013 as submitted.

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

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Frank Pocci to approve the Guideline for Need Based Transportation and Gasoline Cards dated February 6, 2013 as submitted.

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

The Plain Dealer featured an article by Regina Brett that alerted the CCVSC to reach out to a wounded veteran and his family who recently purchased a home in Olmsted Township that was riddled with black mold. The CCCVSC contacted the family and invited them to apply for our assistance while the remediation and reconstruction of their residence is being done. We indicated to the veteran that we will also assist him with any help he may need in obtaining veterans' benefits that he may be entitled to from the VA for the injuries he sustained in the service.

The Executive Director read aloud a complimentary letter from Edward A. Jones thanking the CCVSC for the assistance he received in a time of need.

The Executive Director has been invited to speak on Memorial Day at the Lakewood Park Cemetery on Detroit Road in Rocky River, Ohio.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Roger Erickson provided the Board with a comparison between the Samsung Galaxy 10 tablet and the HP Mini Netbook. The Executive Director will check the budget to see if funds are available.

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

Mel Davis

- CCVSC space at the new county administration building
- Veterans Service Organization funding

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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

AYES: Baher, Pocci, Potts, Weist. NAYS: None. Motion carried. (10:40 a.m.)

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

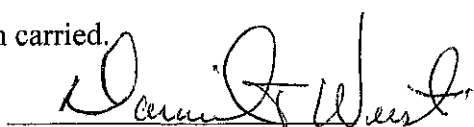
AYES: Baher, Pocci, Potts, Weist. NAYS: None. Motion carried. (11:13 a.m.)

The Executive Director was instructed on how to proceed with issues discussed in Executive Session.

With no further business, a motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Frank Pocci to adjourn the meeting at 11:24 a.m.

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


Bob Potts, President


Daniel T. Weist, 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: Bob Schloendorn (216-698-2611)
Commissioners: Lorri Slivka, Secretary to the Board (216-698-2646)