



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

JOHN C. MURPHY
SERVICE OFFICER MANAGER

Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission

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1849 Prospect Avenue • Suite 150 • Cleveland, OH 44115



MINUTES

DATE: October 7, 2009 9:45 a.m.

PRESENT: Bob Potts, President
Thomas Zung, Vice President
Mel Baher, Secretary
Robert E. Schloendorn, Executive Director
Daniel Weist, Commissioner
Thomas O'Donnell, Asst. County Prosecutor

ABSENT: Frank Pocchi, Commissioner

VISITORS: Richard Danielson, Korean War Veterans of America, Post 69

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 Thomas Zung to dispense with the reading of the Consent Agenda as published. (All Commissioners have a copy of the minutes.)

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

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS:

Due to the inability to connect to the internet as a result of our move to the first floor, the commissioners' reports were postponed to the October 21st Board meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mel Baher noted for the record, that we still have not heard from the judges of the Common Pleas Court regarding the VVA appointment on the CCVSC Board. This appointment commenced January 1, 2009 and will end December 31, 2013. October 15th is fast approaching and time for the appointing judge of the Common Pleas Court to notify all American Legion posts for a list of three recommendations for that slot on the CCVSC Board. This appointment will commence January 1, 2010 and end December 31, 2014. The Board instructed the Executive Director to send a letter to the Appointing Judge, with a copy to Judge Timothy McMonagle, Chair of the Veterans Committee, as a reminder of the appointments.

On behalf of the Board, Bob Potts extended a thank you to Mel Baher and American Legion Post 91 for hosting the CCVSC open public meeting on Wednesday, September 16, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. Several guests in attendance were pleased to learn of the services and benefits the CCVSC offers.

The rescheduled date for the groundbreaking ceremony for the Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center is Monday, October 19th at 12:00 p.m. The Commissioners and Executive Director will be attending the ceremony.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Ohio State Association of Veterans Service Commissioners Fall Conference is scheduled for November 21-22, 2009 in Columbus, Ohio. Reservations have been made for Commissioner Weist who will be attending.

The Executive Director was instructed to contact the Medina County Veterans Service Commission for information on the cost of wooden burial flag cases for deceased veterans.

Bakers Funeral Home in Berea, Ohio has identified five unclaimed veterans' remains and would like to transport them to the Rittman National Cemetery for burial. The Board asked the Executive Director to contact Rittman Cemetery to determine what is needed to bury the remains and to investigate whether other area funeral homes would be interested in a combined burial. Bakers Funeral Home offered to provide the hearse to transport all remains to Rittman.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

President Potts turned the meeting over to Laurene Rutkowski, Manager of the Memorial Affairs Dept., for a presentation on the department's activities.

- Referrals continue to be made to the Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery in Rittman, Ohio
- Permits on county graves for indigent veterans are limited; most are choosing the National Cemetery
- Memorial Day flag reimbursements; individual posts/chapters will receive up to \$500.00 and must file individually for reimbursement of Memorial Day expenses.
- Cemetery flag receipt forms must be returned to the CCVSC office in order for individuals to receive flags for the following year.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Thomas Zung to go into Executive Session to discuss the employment, dismissal, discipline or demotion of an employee.

AYES: Baher, Potts, Weist, Zung. NAYS: None. Motion carried. (10:55 a.m.)

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

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

In Executive Session, the Executive Director advised the Board of personnel moves at the commission.

With no further business, a motion was made by Thomas Zung and seconded by Dan Weist to adjourn the meeting at 11:13 p.m.

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

Bob Potts, 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: John Murphy, Service Officer Manager (216-698-2637)

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

Mobile Meals Program: Terry Walker, Social Worker/Case Management Officer (216-698-2379)

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

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