



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

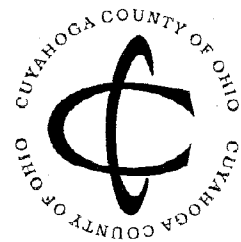


Vietnam Veterans of America  
**BOB POTTS**  
 COMMISSIONER

**ROBERT SCHLOENDORN**  
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission

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



### MINUTES

**DATE:** December 1, 2010 9:34 a.m.

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

**ABSENT:** Bob Potts, Commissioner

**VISITORS:** None.

**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 Mel Baher 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: Baher, Pocci, Weist, Zung. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

### COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

#### Thomas Zung – VFW

- I attended my VFW post meeting on Veterans' Day, November 11<sup>th</sup>.

#### Mel Baher – American Legion

- November 3<sup>rd</sup>, I attended the American Legion 13<sup>th</sup> District meeting at Post 703 at 7:30 p.m.
- November 11<sup>th</sup>, I attended the Veteran's Day lunch by our Ladies Auxiliary, dinner by our Sons of the American Legion, and I attended the American Legion Post 91 membership meet at 7:00 p.m.
- November 24<sup>th</sup>, I attended the American Legion Post 91 e-board meeting at 7:00 p.m.

### Upcoming Events for December

- December 5<sup>th</sup> – the American Legion 13<sup>th</sup> District Winter Conference is scheduled to be held at American Legion Post 91 at 10:00 a.m.
- December 9<sup>th</sup> – the American Legion Post 91 monthly membership meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m.
- December 11<sup>th</sup> – American Legion Post 91 will be hosting a children's Christmas party from noon to 3:00 p.m.
- December 17<sup>th</sup> – the CCVSC holiday luncheon is scheduled to be held at American Legion Post 91 from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- December 18<sup>th</sup> – the American Legion Post 91 adult Christmas party is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. – midnight.
- December 29<sup>th</sup> – the American Legion Post 91 e-board meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m.

### Frank Pocci – AMVETS

- I attended the general meeting at Post 80 November 2<sup>nd</sup> and gave my financial report.
- November 11<sup>th</sup>, the Post attended a flag ceremony at the Maple Hts. Veteran's Memorial and at Woodside Village. The Honor Guard was in full dress uniform for both activities.
- December 4<sup>th</sup>, the Post will host a holiday party for members, auxiliary members and guests.

### Other Activities

- On Veteran's Day, I attended the ceremony at the VFW Post 3345 in Strongsville.
- November 7<sup>th</sup>, I participated in an executive meeting for the Italian American Vets (ITAM) Post 34 to discuss current membership, the appointment of a Judge Advocate and future events.
- One of the members of ITAM Post 34, Lt. Col. Dominic Rinaldi and his two sons (Alex and Dominic) were recognized in a Plain Dealer article on November 13<sup>th</sup>. The brothers are serving in the Navy after having completed their ROTC training at Ohio State University.
- November 19<sup>th</sup>, I represented the CCVSC at the burial ceremony for the remains of Staff Sgt. Samuel Hewitt, a marine who has been missing in action in Vietnam since 1966. It was a very moving ceremony with two marine units, various veterans units, school children and many other attendees. The remains were found on September 20<sup>th</sup> and identified through dental records.
- The VAMC at Wade Park (which I visited November 29<sup>th</sup>) is really taking shape and with all the new buildings, it is really changing the landscape of the entire area. Also, the Vet Center on Brook Park Rd. in Parma is coming along very well.
- I have written a letter to the new Director of Marketing for the Cuyahoga County Library systems asking for another distribution of our brochures, as some of the branches have run out. Our executive secretary will take care of the necessary mailing of the brochures to the library's administrative offices.

### Dan Weist – DAV

- On Veteran's Day, I attended memorial services honoring veterans at North Olmsted Park.
- November 17<sup>th</sup>, I attended the Police and Fireman of the Year Award. The ceremony was well attended.
- I have been invited to attend the Port Commission's Christmas party at Massimo Di Milano's Restaurant on December 13<sup>th</sup> and give an update on veterans' affairs.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

The Executive Director noted that Eligibility Specialist, Geniece Garner, is out on maternity leave. Laura Scullin, hired on a temporary basis to cover Geniece's leave, reported to work November 24<sup>th</sup> and her appointment is not to exceed 59 days in a calendar year, per the Union Contract.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

The Board is in the process of reviewing employee policies and guidelines.

Discussion took place concerning the "Food and Shelter Monthly Allowance Guideline" dated March 3, 2010 in regards to rent to relatives. Minor changes were made by the Board and the Executive Director is to present the amended guideline for approval at the next open public meeting.

*The Board recessed at 10:41 a.m. and reconvened at 10:51 a.m.*

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

The President moved to the Good of the Order to accommodate a short presentation by Sharon Lewis, Housing Coordinator for Rising Sun Health Care Services, LLC. Ms. Lewis stated that the program provides quality care and family style assisted housing in the Lee-Harvard neighborhood for mature veterans and surviving spouses. For more information, Ms. Lewis can be contacted at 216-991-2494.

**NEW BUSINESS, cont'd.**

The Board made minor changes to the "Term of Financial Assistance Policy" dated February 17, 2010 in regards to lifetime aid. The Executive Director will present the amended policy for the Board's approval at the next Board meeting.

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Thomas Zung to approve the revised "Leave Donation Policy" dated August 19, 1998, as submitted by the Executive Director.

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

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Thomas Zung to approve the revised "Cuyahoga County Identification Card Policy Adopted by the Veterans Service Commission May 11, 1999" as submitted by the Executive Director.

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

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Thomas Zung to approve the revised "Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) Policy", dated April 1, 1999, as submitted by the Executive Director. Following some discussion, the Board asked the Executive Director and Asst. County Prosecutor to reword a portion of the policy and submit the changes at the next Board meeting. Commissioner Baher withdrew the motion and Commissioner Zung withdrew the second.

The Board reviewed the revised draft of the "Policy on the Schedule of Record Retention and Destruction" dated August 16, 2006, as submitted by the Executive Director. During discussion, the Asst. County Prosecutor recommended that further changes be made to the policy. The Executive Director will submit an amended revision to the Board at the next open public meeting.

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Mel Baher and seconded by Thomas Zung to approve the revised "Policy on Tardiness" dated June 23, 1998, as submitted by the Executive Director.

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

**GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

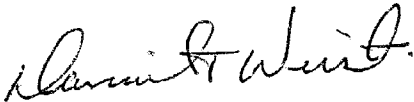
No further items.

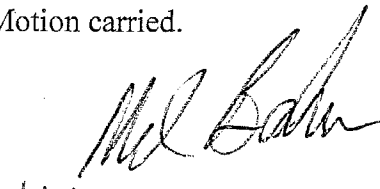
**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

There were no items for Executive Session.

With no further business, a motion was made by Thomas Zung and seconded by Mel Baher to adjourn the meeting at 12:06 p.m.

AYES: Baher, Pocci, 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:	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)