



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

JON REISS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission

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1849 Prospect Avenue • Suite 150 • Cleveland, OH 44115



MINUTES

DATE: December 2, 2015 9:30 a.m.

PRESENT: Daniel T. Weist, President
Mel Baher, Vice President
Frank Pocci, Secretary
Bob Potts, Commissioner
Clayton E. Uzell, Commissioner
Jon Reiss, Executive Director
Lorri Slivka, Executive Secretary

EXCUSED: Brian Gutkoski, Asst. County Prosecutor

PURPOSE: GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING

The meeting was called to order by President Dan Weist followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS:

Mel Baher – American Legion

- Wednesday, November 4th – the American Legion 13th District Council meeting was held at 7:30 p.m. at American Legion Post 196 in Brecksville, Ohio. I presented the executive board approved financial reports for September 2015, as District Finance Officer.
- Wednesday, November 11th (Veteran's Day) – I attended a new Veteran's Memorial dedication at Woodvale Cemetery at 10:30 a.m. Woodvale Cemetery is located in Middleburg Hts. at the corner of Engle and Fowles Rd. Also, Post 91 Ladies Auxiliary provided a luncheon from noon until 2:00 p.m. and the Sons of American Legion Post 91 provided dinner from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday, November 12th – I attended the American Legion Post 91 membership meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday, November 19th – I attended a 13th District Pool Tournament planning meeting held at American Legion Post 572. The 13th District will be hosting a tournament in April 2016.

- Friday, November 20th – I departed for Dublin, Ohio to attend the OSAVSC Fall Conference held at Embassy Suites on Saturday from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Attendance is mandatory in order to obtain the necessary yearly training credits required for VSC commissioners.
- Monday, November 23rd – I attended the American Legion 13th District executive board meeting at 7:30 p.m., held at American Legion Post 196 in Brecksville, Ohio. I presented October 2015 financial reports to the executive committee for approval, as District Finance Officer.
- Wednesday, November 25th – I attended the American Legion Post 91 executive board meeting at 7:00 p.m. I serve on the board as an elected board member.

Upcoming Events:

- Sunday, December 6th – the American Legion 13th District Winter Conference is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. at Post 91 in Berea, Ohio. I will be presenting the executive board approved financial reports for October 2015, as District Finance Officer. A luncheon will be served upstairs in the hall at the conclusion of the meeting.
- Thursday, December 10th – the American Legion Post 91 membership meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, December 16th – the American Legion 13th District executive board Christmas party is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. at Post 91 in Berea, Ohio.
- Wednesday, December 23rd – the American Legion Post 91 executive board meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. I serve on the board as an elected board member.

Bob Potts – VVA

- November 3rd – I attended the VVA Chapter 249 board and membership meeting.
- November 4 – I attended the CCVSC open public meeting.
- November 10th – I celebrated the 240th birthday of the United States Marine Corps.
- November 11th – I attended the American Legion Post 91 Veterans Day Program.
- November 18th – I attended the CCVSC open public meeting and the Level III appeals hearings.
- November 20-22nd – I attended the OSAVSC Fall Conference in Dublin, Ohio.
- November 25th – I attended the CCVSC Level III appeals hearings.
- December 1st – there will be no VVA meeting because of the Christmas Party from VFW 6696.

Clay Uzell – VFW

- November 4th – I attended the CCVSC open public meeting.
- November 7-8th – I distributed VFW poppies at Dave's Supermarket in Richmond Hts.
- November 9th – the VFW conducted judging for the Patriot's Pen Contest. The Post had 98 entries from Memorial Jr. High and 1 entry from Wickliffe Middle School. Six are to advance to district level for judging.
- November 11th – A wreath was placed at the Lyndhurst Veteran's Memorial for Veteran's Day.
- November 16th – I attended the Post 7536 meeting and reviewed the poppy donations, the Patriot Pen winners and the cost of prizes and the pizza party for the students that participated from Memorial Jr. High. The student from Wickliffe Middle School did not attend the pizza party but has been invited, along with the parents, to be recognized at the Post 7536 Christmas party.
- November 18th – I attended the CCVSC open public meeting and the Level III appeals hearings.
- November 20-22nd – I attended the OSAVSC Fall Conference in Dublin, Ohio.
- November 21st – District 7 held its Military Ball - the presentation of Colors, St. Clarence Hall, North Olmsted.

Frank Pocci – AMVETS

- I attended the November 3rd and December 1st AMVETS Post 80 meetings. I gave my financial reports and encouraged the vets to refer any needy veterans, or those wishing to file claims, to the CCVSC.
- The Post was represented at the Maple Hts. Veteran's Day events.
- The honor guard served their monthly duty at the Ohio Western Reserve Cemetery.

Other activities:

- In October, I attended all of the scheduled board meetings at the CCVSC.
- I attended the meeting of the Italian American War Veterans (ITAM) Post 34 on November 6th.
- I attended the Dept. of Ohio meeting in Lorain, Ohio on November 15th.
- I participated in the Memorial Day services at Woodvale Cemetery where a monument for veterans was dedicated with a joint ceremony by the cities of Berea and Middleburg Hts. Following the ceremony, I joined other veterans at the American Legion Post 91 in Berea, where I brought four other veterans.
- I attended the OSAVSC Fall Conference and training event in Dublin, Ohio on November 20th and 21st.
- I attended funeral services for two Vietnam veterans, one Army and one Marine. The marine was an individual the CCVSC assisted in getting service connected about eight years ago and had been injured during his three tours in Vietnam. I got flag cases for the families.

Dan Weist – DAV

- I attended all CCVSC board meetings during the month of November.
- I attended a Veteran's Day ceremony at North Olmsted High School where the Patriot Pen Awards were presented.
- November 11th - I attended the Veterans' Day Parade in downtown Cleveland and the ceremony at City Hall that followed.
- November 21st – I attended the North Olmsted VFW award's ceremony for Police & Fireman of the Year.
- Thanksgiving Day was at St, Mary's of the Woods Assisted Living facility on Detroit Rd. in Avon. I spoke to several individuals about VA benefits.

Brian Gutkoski, Asst. County Prosecutor, joined the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

OLD BUSINESS:

Jon Reiss is participating in a meeting today with the new ODVS director, Chip Tansell in Columbus, Ohio. The purpose of the meeting, involving the nine largest counties in Ohio, is to discuss veteran employment issues.

Employee performance evaluations have been compiled and, once finalized, awards will be issued.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

None.

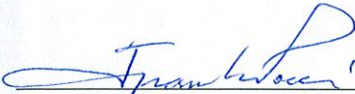
EXECUTIVE SESSION:

No items for Executive Session.

With no further business, a motion was made by Bob Potts and seconded by Clay Uzell to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

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


Daniel T. Weist, President


Frank Pocci, Secretary

CONTACT INFORMATION

Requests for Financial Assistance:	Steve Fernandez, Finance Operations Manager (216-698-2391)
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)