



American Legion
MEL BAHER
COMMISSIONER



American Veterans
FRANK POCCHI
COMMISSIONER



Disabled American Veterans
WILLIAM R. CAINE
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: March 1, 2017 9:30 a.m.

PRESENT: Frank Pocci, President
Bob Potts, Vice President
Clayton E. Uzell, Secretary
William R. Caine, Commissioner
Mel Baher, 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 Frank Pocci followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Clay Uzell 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, Caine, Pocci, Potts, Uzell. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Asst. County Prosecutor Brian Gutkoski joined the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS:

Clayton Uzell – VFW

- February 1st – I attended the CCVSC open public board meeting.
- February 5th – I attended the VFW District 7 Joint Memorial Service followed by the District 7 Conference. I gave out awards to the District 7 posts that participated in safety programs.
- February 8th – I attended the CCVSC Level III appeals hearings.
- February 15th – I attended the CCVSC open public meeting.
- February 19th – 25th – I attended the National VFW Auxiliary Mid-Winter Conference cruise for five days, visiting two ports.

Mel Baher – American Legion

- Wednesday, February 1st – I attended the American Legion 13th District council meeting held at American Legion Post 738 in Fairview Park, Ohio. The meeting began at 7:30 p.m. and I presented the executive approved financial reports for December 2016, as District Finance Officer.
- Thursday, February 9th – I attended the American Legion Post 91 membership meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday, February 23rd – I attended the American Legion Post 91 executive board meeting at 7:00 p.m., where I serve as an elected board member.
- Sunday, February 26th – I departed for Washington, D.C. to attend the American Legion National Conference, held at the Washington Hilton Hotel. On Monday morning, I attended the National Security Committee meeting held from 9:00 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. Two resolutions (#232 & #234) were adopted by committee. On Monday evening, I attended the 59th Annual Reception honoring the Foreign Relations Committee and also the Ohio Delegation dinner. Due to scheduling conflicts, our committee and District representatives were unable to meet on Tuesday with Representatives Kaptur and Fudge. Appointments with Senator Rob Portman and Senator Sherrod Brown were scheduled after I departed for home.
- Monday, February 27th – I was unable to attend the 13th District executive board meeting held at American Legion Post 738 in Fairview Park, Ohio due to my Washington trip. However, I prepared the January financial reports for distribution and approval to the District Commander.

Bill Caine – DAV

- February 3rd – Attended planning meeting at IX Center for June Military Vehicles Event with possible CCVSC participation.
- February 10th – Attended IX Center final planning session for March 2017 Power Piston Show with a theme of honoring Women Veterans All Branches All Wars.
- February 11th – Met with three veterans from The Lantern, a shelter on Triskett Road, to discuss both federal benefits and CCVSC assistance. Discussed VOC rehab and medical and dental care with recent discharges.
- February 14th – Drove to DAV Headquarters in Columbus, Ohio to schedule briefings for Ohio Congressmen concurrent with the DAV Mid-Winter Conference.
- February 16th – Attended the monthly meeting of DAV Chapter 108 Rocky River to brief them on activities and service numbers of the CCVSC.
- February 17th – Attended the monthly meeting of my home DAV Chapter 116 Brooklyn/Parma.
- February 25 through 28th – Traveled to Washington, D.C. to participate in seminars and briefings at the DAV National Mid-Winter Conference.

Bob Potts – VVA

- I attended both CCVSC open public board meetings and both Level III appeal hearings during the month of February.
- We are now in preparation for the End of the War Ceremony. The honor to the veterans moved to Mall A at 4:00 p.m. on April 30th.

Frank Pocci – AMVETS

- February 1st – I attended the CCVSC open public board meeting.
- February 8th – I attended the CCVSC Level III appeal hearings.
- I was on vacation and did not attend meetings on the last two Wednesdays of the month.
- I gave my financial report for AMVETS.
- I attended the Italian American War Veterans meeting and set up a State Dept. meeting for ITAM in Lorain on April 9th.

- I stopped in at the Parma CBOC and spoke to a vet I was unable to assist because he was not eligible.

OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion took place concerning H.B. 49 which addresses multiple changes to ORC 5901. It was noted that both the commissioners' association and the service officers' association have admonished ODVS of these changes. The Director of ODVS is required per the ORC 5902, to establish an Advisory Committee of the veterans' service organizations for the advice and counsel of any changes to the ORC and this did not occur.

NEW BUSINESS:

The CCVSC received correspondence that a District 3 meeting will take place on Friday, March 17, 2017, in Lisbon, Ohio from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. It was noted that the 2017 ODVS training guide did not include District training for the mandatory five (5) training credits. As a result, it was the consensus of the Board to attend spring and fall training and take the on-line course which are required.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

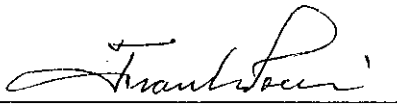
Mel Baher presented our letter to the Commander of American Legion Post 91 requesting that the Post host the CCVSC board outreach meeting on Wednesday, May 17, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. The issue will be addressed at their Executive Board meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There were no items for Executive Session.

With no further business, a motion was made by Bob Potts and seconded by Mel Baher to adjourn the meeting at 10:28 a.m.

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



Frank Pocci, President



Clayton Uzell, Secretary

CONTACT INFORMATION

Requests for Financial Assistance:

Melinda Halliburton, Service Office Mgr. (216-698-2639)

Filing claims with the Dept. of

Veterans' Affairs/Memorial Affairs:

Melinda Halliburton, Service Office Mgr. (216-698-2639)

Social Work Dept.:

Terry Walker, Social Worker/Case Mgmt.) (216-698-2379)

Executive Director:

Jon Reiss (216-698-2611)

Commissioners:

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