



American Legion
MEL BAHER
COMMISSIONER



American Veterans
FRANK POCCI
COMMISSIONER



Disabled American Veterans
CHRISTOPHER GRAU
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: June 6, 2018 9:30 a.m.

PRESENT: Bob Potts, President
Clayton E. Uzell, Vice President
Mel Baher, Secretary
Frank Pocci, Commissioner
Jon Reiss, Executive Director
Brian Gutkoski, Asst. County Prosecutor
Lorri Slivka, Executive Secretary

EXCUSED: Christopher Grau, Commissioner

VISITORS: None

PURPOSE: GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING

The meeting was called to order by President 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, Uzell. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS:

Clay Uzell – VFW

- May 2nd – I attended the CCVSC open public meeting. We welcomed the new DAV representative, Christopher Grau.
- May 6th – I attended the VFW District 7 Convention at Post 943 Ashtabula, where elections and the installation of officers were held.
- May 9th – I attended the CCVSC Level III appeals hearings.
- May 16th – I attended the CCVSC open public meeting. Interviews for the position of Executive Secretary were conducted.
- May 20th – I attended the past C.C.C. President's Dinner at TGI Friday's on Tiedeman Road.

- May 21st – VFW Post 7536 Lyndhurst installed newly elected Post officers for 2018-2019, and also installed 7536 Auxiliary Officers. We presented a \$100.00 check to the Auxiliary Patriotic Art winner. His artwork took first place for the Department of Ohio and will be on display and judged at the VFW National Convention in Kansas City, MO.
- May 23rd – I attended the CCVSC Level III appeals hearings.
- May 26-27th – I distributed VFW buddy poppies at Dave’s Supermarket in Richmond Hts.
- May 28th – Lakeview Cemetery took part in the Memorial Day Service. Seven wreaths were placed; WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Beirut Marine Barracks Bombing, Gulf Wars, VFW Auxiliary, and CCVSC.

Frank Pocci – AMVETS

- I attended two board meetings at the CCVSC.
- I attended the Italian American War Veterans May Post 34 meeting.
- I attended the AMVETS Post 80 meeting on June 5th.
- I have been invited, as an honored guest, to the Catholic War Veterans 60th Anniversary dinner in August.
- I visited the Anzio WWII landing zone near Rome, Italy and visited the museum there.
- I visited the American Military Cemetery near Anzio, Italy where 5,864 American soldiers are buried.

Mel Baher – American Legion

I attended all scheduled meetings of the CCVSC during the month of May 2018. Following, is a report of my activities outside of the CCVSC for the month of May 2018.

- Wednesday, May 2nd – I attended the American Legion 13th District Council meeting held at American Legion Post 451 in Rocky River, Ohio. The meeting began at 7:30 p.m. I presented the executive board approved financial reports for March 2018, as District Finance Officer. Also, the Past District Commanders held our annual Post Everlasting service for our 2017-2018 departed comrades from all posts within the Thirteenth District.
- Thursday, May 10th – I attended the American Legion Post 91 membership meeting at 7:00 p.m. I presented my membership report as 1st Vice Commander. Also, election of officers for the 2018-2019 membership year were elected and I was re-elected to serve as 1st Vice Commander.
- Monday, May 21st – I attended the American Legion 13th District Council executive board meeting held at American Legion Post 451 in Rocky River, Ohio. The meeting began at 7:30 p.m. I presented the April 2018 financial reports for executive board approval, as District Finance Officer.
- Thursday, May 24th – I attended the American Legion Post 91 executive board meeting held at 7:00 p.m. I presented my updated membership report, as 1st Vice Commander.
- Saturday, May 26th – I participated in decorating over 1,700 veterans’ graves at Woodvale Cemetery.
- Monday, May 28th – I attended Post 91 graveside services at Adams St. Cemetery (8:00 a.m.) and Woodvale Cemetery (9:00 a.m.). At 10:00 a.m., the parade was formed up and stepped off at 10:30 a.m. Following the parade, I was Master of Ceremonies for our 150th Memorial Day program. Following the program, a luncheon was served at Post 91.

Bob Potts – VVA

- May 1st – I attended the VVA Chapter 249 board meeting and membership meeting.
- May 2nd – I attended the CCVSC open public meeting.
- May 3rd – Chapter 249 Speaker’s Bureau spoke to students of Medina High School about the Vietnam Experience.
- May 9th – I attended the CCVSC Level III appeal hearings.

- May 10th – Chapter 249 Speaker’s Bureau spoke to students of Strongsville High School about the Vietnam Experience.
- May 16th – I attended the CCVSC open public meeting.
- May 17th – Chapter 249 Speaker’s Bureau spoke to students of Normandy High School about the Vietnam Experience.
- May 23rd – I attended the CCVSC Level III appeal hearings.
- May 24th – Chapter 249 Speaker’s Bureau spoke to students of Rocky River High School about the Vietnam Experience.
- May 28th – I attended a Memorial Day Ceremony in Bay Village, but was unable to march.
- May 30th – Chapter 249 Speaker’s Bureau spoke to students of Westlake High School about the Vietnam Experience.
- June 5th – I attended the VVA Chapter 249 board meeting and membership meeting.

Christopher Grau – DAV (submitted prior to the meeting)

- May 2nd – I attended my first meeting of the CCVSC.
- May 9th – I attended the CCVSC appeals meeting.
- May 16th – I attended the CCVSC meeting.
- May 19th – I attended a veteran’s outreach program sponsored by the City of Berea; Larry Amato, VSC VSO was in attendance. This was the first veteran’s outreach, to my knowledge, hosted by the City of Berea and was attended by 10 to 12 veterans and their spouses.
- May 23rd – I attended the CCVSC appeals meeting.
- May 26th – I participated in placing approximately 3,789 flags at the Lakewood Park Cemetery in Rocky River. Afterwards, American Legion Post 451 hosted a lunch for all the volunteers. Steve Fernandez was one of the Legion volunteers.
- May 28th – I participated in the City of Rocky River Memorial Day Parade riding my motorcycle.
- May 28th – I participated in the Memorial Day Ceremony, honored by placing our Nation’s Flag.

OLD BUSINESS:

Board members suggested changes to the challenge coin sample they were given at the last public meeting. The director will place the order; no resolution is required.

The director presented two samples of CCVSC caps; floppy and firm. The firm cap was chosen and they opted for the screen print logo opposed to the embroidered one for a 60% savings.

Quick Series, the free mobile application quick reference guide, is now ready to download. The scripts are still a work in progress.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Mel Baher and seconded by Clay Uzell to approve the revised Policy on Time and Attendance dated June 6, 2018, to become effective immediately upon the readiness of the automated time system.

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

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Clay Uzell will be attending the VFW State Convention from June 6-10, 2018.

Frank Pocci was re-elected Service Officer and Finance Officer for AMVETS Post 80.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Frank Pocci and seconded by Clay Uzell to go into Executive Session to discuss a matter to be kept confidential, a CCVSC service claim, and employment.

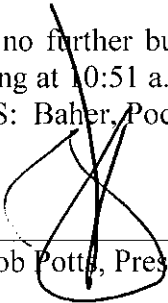
AYES: Baher, Pocci, Potts, Uzell. NAYS: None. Motion carried. 10:29 a.m.

The Board came out of Executive Session and returned to the regular order of business at 10:49 a.m.

In Executive Session, the above issues were discussed and the Executive Director was instructed on how to proceed.

With no further business, a motion was made by Clay Uzell and seconded Frank Pocci to adjourn the meeting at 10:51 a.m.

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



Bob Potts, President



Mel Baher, Secretary

CONTACT INFORMATION

Requests for Financial Assistance/

Filing claims with the Dept. of

Veterans' Affairs/Memorial Affairs:

Social Work Dept.:

Executive Director:

Commissioners:

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

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

Jon Reiss (216-698-2611)

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