



American Legion
MEL BAHER
COMMISSIONER



American Veterans
FRANK POCCHI
COMMISSIONER



Disabled American Veterans
VACANT
COMMISSIONER



Veterans of Foreign Wars
JAMES RILEY
COMMISSIONER



Vietnam Veterans of America
BOB POTTS
COMMISSIONER

JON REISS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FERONNE WILLIAMS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission

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Email: vsccmail@cuyahogacounty.us
1849 Prospect Avenue • Suite 150 • Cleveland, OH 44115

MINUTES

DATE/TIME: July 26, 2023 9:30 a.m.

PRESENT: Mel Baher, Vice President
James Riley, Secretary
Frank Pocchi, Commissioner
Jon Reiss, Executive Director
Feronne Williams, Deputy Director
Mary Kitko, Executive Secretary

EXCUSED: Bob Potts, President

VISITORS: A.J. Thompson

PURPOSE: GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING/LEVEL III APPEALS

The meeting was called to order by Mel Baher, Vice President.

OLD BUSINESS

Executive Director J. Reiss updated the Board on the VSC's current office space and the new headquarter building. Public Works sent the current landlord and 'end of lease' letter for December 2023. Because the new headquarters building is behind, Director Reiss contacted the landlord asking to extend the lease until March of 2025. If the landlord is not willing/able to extend the lease, Public Works will relocate the VSC.

The design team is expected to complete the design changes today. County Council will consider budget options once the updates are made.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Commissioner Pocchi gave out two flags to citizens with torn/tattered flags and/or no flag on a flagpole. One individual was elderly and appreciated the help putting the flag up.

Commissioner Riley will be part of the Honor Guard for a World War II ceremony at Sunset Memorial on Saturday. He is also attending Commissioner training in Columbus, and will be part of the Honor Guard for ten

funerals at Rittman Cemetery on August 7th. Finally, he will take part in a planning meeting for the Veterans Day Event.

Deputy Director Williams briefed the Board on the removal of a veteran from the VSC. The veteran was contentious and was protesting against the VSC. The veteran was asked to leave by security.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Jim Riley to go into Executive Session to discuss preparations for collective bargaining negotiations and client cases and appeals. Motion seconded by Frank Pocci.

AYES: Baher, Pocci, Riley. NAYS: None. Motion carried. (9:46 a.m.)

The Board came out of Executive Session and returned to the regular order of business at 11:11 a.m. In Executive Session the Board discussed preparations for collective bargaining and client cases and appeals.

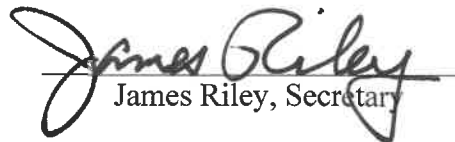
The votes for further assistance, recorded by the Secretary, of the client appeal that were discussed in Executive Session, are attached. The Executive Director and Deputy Director were instructed on how to proceed.

With no further business, a motion was made by Jim Riley to adjourn the meeting at 11:13 a.m. Motion seconded by Frank Pocci.

AYES: Baher, Pocci, Riley. NAYS: None. Motion carried.



Mel Baher, Vice President



James Riley, Secretary

CONTACT INFORMATION

Filing claims with the Dept. of

Veterans' Affairs/Memorial Affairs:

Financial Assistance Manager:

Finance/Operations Manager:

Executive Director:

Deputy Director:

Commissioners:

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

Jeanne Bell (216)-698-2635

Colleen Kehoe (216-698-2392)

Jon Reiss (216-698-2611)

Feronne Williams (216-698-3845)

Mary Kitko, Secretary to the Board (216-698-2651)