



American Legion
MEL BAHER
COMMISSIONER



American Veterans
FRANK POCCI
COMMISSIONER



Disabled American Veterans
LENON WRIGHT
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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1849 Prospect Avenue • Suite 150 • Cleveland, OH 44115

MINUTES

DATE/TIME: July 17, 2024 9:30 a.m.

PRESENT: Mel Baher, President
James Riley, Vice President
Frank Pocci, Secretary
Lenon Wright, Commissioner
Jon Reiss, Executive Director
Mary Kitko, Executive Secretary
Craig Morice, Assistant County Prosecutor

EXCUSED: Bob Potts, Commissioner
Feronne Williams, Deputy Director

VISITORS: None.

PURPOSE: GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING

The meeting was called to order by President Mel Baher with the Pledge of Allegiance. Vice President Frank Pocci called roll.

OLD BUSINESS

The Executive Director gave his weekly building update. The new headquarters project was expected to be on the council meeting agenda on July 16th. However, the plans were pulled back by purchasing for review, and will not be ready for the 16th meeting. The current plan is to walk the proposal on at the meeting on July 24th, waive the first reading, and adopt the proposal on the 30th. This timeline should still allow for a May 2025 completion date.

Active shooter training is scheduled for August 9th. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion training has been rescheduled for August. County meeting space is being considered.

Plans for VetConnect 2024 are going well. Parking will be at the zoo with shuttles running continuously. All items, etc., have been ordered. Food will be provided by Mission BBQ.

The MOU for the law firm providing services for veteran's wills and POA paperwork has been signed by the board. Attorney C. Morice will work with the law firm to establish a fee schedule for the board to sign.

OLD BUSINESS

The Executive Director gave his weekly building update. The new headquarters project and chosen bid is expected to be introduced to Council on July 16th and will go to committee on July 23rd.

Active shooter training has been scheduled for August 9th. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion training has been rescheduled for August. The VSC was unable to secure a venue for the original date.

Plans for VetConnect 2024 are going well. Parking will be at the Zoo. The team is currently working on securing transport from the Zoo to the event.

The MOU for the law firm providing assistance with veterans for wills and POA paperwork has been signed by the board. Attorney C. Morice will research a law firm that will work with veterans who are interested in starting a business.

There is no update on the Greater Cleveland Veterans Memorial website MOU or software solutions.

The Executive Director will notify M. Chambers that an early retirement plan (ERIP) for the VSC is no longer feasible and will not be pursued.

A motion was made by Frank Pocci to amend Resolution 2024-22 providing for the purchase of up to 7,000 vital document folios, for the clients of the Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission. The Folios will be purchased from Savor, Expenses not to exceed \$145,550. Motion seconded by Jim Riley. Discussion: None. AYES: Baher, Pocci, Riley, Wright. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

None.

With no further business, a motion was made by Jim Riley to adjourn the meeting at 11:52 a.m. Motion seconded by Frank Pocci.

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



Mel Baher, President



Frank Pocci, Secretary

CONTACT INFORMATION

Filing claims with the Dept. of
Veterans' Affairs/Memorial Affairs:
Financial Assistance Manager:
Executive Director:
Deputy Director:
Commissioners:

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