

**Prince George's County Veteran's Commissioner's  
Meeting Minutes  
Nov 5, 2018  
6420 Allentown Road, Camp Springs, MD**

Chair (Vacant), Co-Chairman Andy Martel (excused absence)

Brad Jewitt called the meeting to order at 1803 / 6:03 pm.

- Welcome
- Commissioner's recited the pledge of allegiance
- Commissioner Jewitt took Roll Call;
  - **Present** – Ronald Dickens, Kenneth Hafford, Yolanda Hendricks-Roach, Richard Hollis, Glynn Parker, and Brad Jewitt
  - **Absences** – Vice Chair Andre Martel, Bill Milligan, Trulesta Pauling, and Eric Watson
- Introduction of the commissioners

1809 / 6:09 pm

Commissioner Jewitt - Review Minutes (Oct 2018)

- Commissioner Jewitt read the minutes from the Oct 2018. The Commissioners were unable to approve Oct 2018 minutes -- the commissioners did not have a quorum.

**Old Business**

- **Commissioner Jewitt** discussed the need to have the commissioner's retreat
- **Commissioner Jewitt** discussed marketing the commission and events on social media.
  - **Attendee**: stated the commission needs to do more regarding marketing.
- **Commissioner Jewitt** recommended holding our monthly meetings around the community at different locations (populated areas with veterans). He recommended the Prince Georges Community College since they can stream our meetings.
  - **Commission Dickens** concurred with Commissioner Jewitt.
  - **Commissioner Roach** reminded everyone that Rodney Minor CEO of BRTV offered his services, for the past 2 years, to broadcast the meetings for the commission no matter where we held our monthly meetings.
- **Commissioner Jewitt** discussed the Listening Tour start the beginning of 2019.
  - ie. VSOs, Organizations, Veteran events, Golf Club at JBA or etc
  - **Attendee**: Reminded the commission that a lot of our veterans are elderly and do not come out at night. Therefore, how will the commission include them in the tour.
  - **Commissioner Roach**— revisited the opportunity to speak with transitioning veterans on military bases during the listening tour to address transitioning military members and understand their concerns.
  - They are a large population the county would like to keep them in the county after they transition.
  - **Attendee**: Suggested the VFW because a 1000 people attend those locations.
  - **Commissioner Parker** asked how the listening tour will be structured.
    - **Commissioner Jewitt** recommend we place this on the agenda for the retreat.

- **Commissioner Jewitt** discussed transforming the commission from the old to new (improving).
- **Commissioner Jewitt** recommended canceling the summer recesses going forward. The commission did not have a quorum to discuss and vote on it.

1824 / 6:24 pm

### **New Business**

Commissioner Jewitt introduced Commissioner Seidel (guest speaker from the Maryland Veterans Commission) 301-944-4493 / stanseidel2@gmail.com:

Commissioner Seidel spoke on the subject area:

- MD Veterans Affairs Trust Fund 501(c):
  - <https://veterans.maryland.gov/maryland-department-of-veterans-affairs-veterans-trust-fund/>
  - It is a non-emergency temporary financial assistance program. Governed by a Board of Trustees.
  - Assist veterans in need but do not address chronic issues. The funds can be used for **Mortgage, Rent or Utilities**.
  - Motto: "Hands up not a Hand Out".
  - The state donated a \$100k to the fund and \$0 goes toward the administration. (Mark Hendricks) He is a state employee and gets paid from the MD state. All funds go directly to the veterans, widows and widowers of veterans.
  - In 2017, the program gave out \$99k. These are grants **not** loans.
  - There is an application process and the application review process approximately bi-weekly.
- Spoke about the state casinos.
  - Go to the casinos and ask about the box that people can donate funds for veterans.
- Serving Together Project.
  - <https://servingtogetherproject.org>
- Widows Pension – Phil Munley
  - MD Dept of Veterans Affairs Benefit Package
  - [https://www.benefits.va.gov/pension/current\\_rates\\_survivor\\_pen.asp](https://www.benefits.va.gov/pension/current_rates_survivor_pen.asp)
  -
- Senior Community Services Employment Program (SCSEP)
  - A program that align seniors (55 and older) to work with/assist non-profit organizations or government agencies.
  - <https://www.dlr.state.md/employment/scsep.shtml>

1901 / 7:01pm

- No other new business

1902

- **Commissioner Jewitt** open the floor for announcements.
  - **Commissioners announced Veteran Day Events on 11 Nov 2018.**
    - VFW Post 259 Clinton, MD @1100
    - National Cemetery at Arlington, VA

UNCLASSIFIED

- MGM is unveiling the Veterans Memorial and free rides on the ferris wheel
- Thanksgiving luncheon for Charlotte Hall Veterans
- Post 275 17 Nov
- **Attendee:** Vet Center – VA Mobile van will be at Arlington Cemetery on 11 Nov 2018.
- **Attendee:** DC VA has transportation grants. Has the commission come up with transportation in the county where the vehicles can be kept in a secure facility within the county.

1911

Color Salute

1912

**Commissioner Jewitt**

- Adjourned the Meeting

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