



**COMMISSION FOR VETERANS
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES
6420 ALLENTOWN ROAD
CAMP SPRINGS, MD 20748**



Department of Family Services, Camp Springs, Md.

The mission of the Commission is to evaluate the needs of county veterans and their families against the programs and services offered within Prince George's County, and to promote the development or expansion of programs and services when a need identified.

Meeting was called to order at 7 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence

Minutes were approved with a motion from Commissioner Martel and seconded by Commissioner Watson. Vote passed 8 to 0.

Unexcused Absences: Commissioners Nordhorn and Dickens

Veterans Affairs Officer:

Dr. James Dula stated that the County Executive will be providing the changes to the Prince George's County Veterans Commission in the coming month. He will follow-up with the County Executive regarding the letter authored by the Commission to donate money to the Wall of Remembrance for the Korean War veterans who were from Prince George's County.

Dr. Dula's office has been working closely with the Maryland Veterans Chamber of Commerce and partnering with Montgomery County on veterans issues. He has created other teams to assist veterans. These include a women veterans working group with state, local and federal partners and he is working closely with the veterans association and MDVA Secretary George Owens.

Other initiatives include the surviving spouse working group, addressing mental health issues and helping with financial literacy. He mentioned Serving Together has been a great partner. He reminded everyone that the Collaborative meeting is held on the third Tuesday of every month at 1:00 pm. at the

VeteransCommission@co.pg.md.us

<http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/709/Commission-for-Veterans>



**COMMISSION FOR VETERANS
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES
6420 ALLENTOWN ROAD
CAMP SPRINGS, MD 20748**



County Administration Building. Additionally, the census for 2020 is in April and he is looking for volunteers to ensure every veteran is counted.

Chair Jewitt stated that meetings will now be conducted in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order. This will allow in a more professional meeting. The County has a preferred way to conduct meetings and Dr. Dula has asked that the Commission mirror this process. Citizens comments are welcome and will be taken at the end of the meeting as indicated by the agenda. This will keep the meeting orderly. It is asked that if there is a comments and the person is able, to address the commission via the podium by stating your name.

Chair Jewitt also highlighted that per Dr. Dula there will be membership turnover at the next meeting in October. The Chair and the Acting Secretary will not be at the next meeting due to a conflict. Vice Chair Martel will preside over the meeting in October and a secretary for that meeting will be identified at a later time.

Commissioner Milligan tendered his resignation as a commissioner in early September

Committee Reports:

Commissioner Hendricks-Roach stated an email was sent to the Commissioners on Employment and Education.

Commissioner Watson reported on Communication and Outreach: The committee continues to gather information for the October Resource Fair.

Commissioner Jewitt reported on Programs and Activity. The committee is working 100% on the Resource Fair in October. This includes 30 providers from the federal, state and county and nonprofit organizations. County Executive Alsobrooks will have opening remarks at 10 am. The event is being hosted by the at the Oxon Hill Library from 10 am to 2 pm. Starbucks and Jersey Mike's have agreed to make donations.

VeteransCommission@co.pg.md.us

<http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/709/Commission-for-Veterans>



**COMMISSION FOR VETERANS
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES
6420 ALLENTOWN ROAD
CAMP SPRINGS, MD 20748**



-Volunteers are needed to help set up tables and chairs from 3 to 5 PM and the night before, October 18.

-Volunteers are needed to pickup donations from Starbucks any Jersey Mike's.

-Commissioners are needed to sit at the table from 9 to 2 pm

-Volunteers are also needed for cleanup from 2 to 4 pm

Old Business:

Comissioner Hendricks-Roach thanked Readjustment Counseling Therapist with the PG County Veterans Center Ms. Lynn Rapinski for her time and attendance to the Commission as a regular attendee. Lynn has moved out of state. Her replacement is Karen Sulcott, LCSW, who is a Clincial Social Worker and a therapist from the US Dept of Veteran Affairs. She is an AF veteran and can be reached at 301-856-7173.

Commissioner Martel asked for another copy of the annual report that was sent to Dr. Dula by Chair Jewitt outlining the commissioners participation in events throughout the year. Dr. Dula said he will forward the final version to the commissioners.

Commissioners Pauling and Hendricks-Roach have agreed to assist Dr. Dula with obtaining logo-ed t-shirts and a table cloth for Commissioners to use during such events as the Resource Fair.

New Business:

Chair Jewitt asked Comissioner Watson to look at the registration form for the Stand Down event in November and determine what will be needed for the Commission to register for a table.

Citizen Comments:

Walter Thaxton has concerns that using Roberts Rules may limit a veteran's opportunity to speak to the commission. He mentioned that he is not happy that there are veterans who do not know about the Commission. He believes veterans need to have their benefits raised and they do not know how to do this or who to contact.

VeteransCommission@co.pg.md.us

<http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/709/Commission-for-Veterans>



**COMMISSION FOR VETERANS
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES
6420 ALLENTOWN ROAD
CAMP SPRINGS, MD 20748**



Chair Jewitt thanked Mr. Thaxton for his comments and reminded the group that the Commission only meets once a month to conduct the business of the Commission. However, the commissioners are available everyday and a veteran should feel comfortable to have their concerns addressed at anytime.

Chaplain Matthew Boyd III from VFW post 7757 (Largo-Kettering) which hosts 191 members. He introduced himself and will be informing his post of the Resource Fair at the Oxon Hill Library.

Announcements:

Commissioner Pauling highlighted a November 8th - Roundtable & Discussion Featuring Mr. Joseph Otting, U.S. Comptroller of the Currency, Wells Fargo Bank, NAREB, OCC, Mr. Conrad Washington at the VA Center for Faith and Opportunity Initiative from 3:00pm to 6:00pm

November 9, 2109 – Collaborative Community Outreach Event at the VA Center for Faith and Opportunity Initiative (CFOI) & Reid Temple AME Church Military Support Group Ministry

8:30am to 2:30pm – Plenary and Breakout Sessions for Veterans. This is in the planning stage now, can provide flyer and agenda later.

Commissioner Jewitt thanked volunteers Leila Jackson and Donald Drummer for their continued support with the Veteran's Fair on October 19. Ms. Jackson created the flyer, secured the VA and MRVa and is trying to get more food donations. Mr. Drummer has provided significant support as well.

Honors to Colors.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Jewitt - A/Secretary.

Total guests: 9

VeteransCommission@co.pg.md.us

<http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/709/Commission-for-Veterans>