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**Prince George's County Veteran's Commissioner's
Meeting Minutes
December 3, 2018
Prince Georges Community College**

Co-Chairman Andy Martel call the meeting to order at 6:15pm

- Welcome
- Commissioner's recited the pledge of allegiance
- Pause for a moment of silence in remembrance of our POW & MIA Veterans and their families.
- Co-Chairman took Roll Call at 1807;
 - **Present** - Andre Martel, Ronald Dickens, Kenneth Hafford, Yolanda Hendricks-Roach, Richard Hollis, Glynn Parker, Trulesta Pauling, Eric Watson and Brad Jewitt
 - **Absences** –Fred Nordhorn and Bill Milligan.
- Adoption of Agenda – Com Hafford motioned and Com Jewitt second the motion
- Introduction of the Commissioners and Guest
 - There were 2 new attendees from the Charles County Veteran Commission
 - Austin Morris, Representative from Senator Chris Van Hollen's Office attended. Her email address is assistant@vanhollen@senate.gov

Comments from:

1819

Review Minutes and Approve (Oct and Nov 2018)

- Com Hollis motion Oct and Nov minutes.
- Com Roach second motion Oct 2018. Com Dickens second motion
- Commissioners were unable to review and approve the recommended by-law changes from 2018 Retreat.

1825

Old Business

- Secretary – Commissioners recommended temporarily appointing Cheryl Jewitt (volunteered) as the acting secretary. – Com Roach motioned and Dickens second the motion.
- Com Roach asked that the Nov minutes be updated to reflect she had an excused absence.

1840

New Business

- Alicia Downs, representative from the Prince Georges County Serving Together, was a guest speaker. However, she had stepped out to take a phone call and thus was unable to speak at the meeting.
- Discussed using social media, public access, or county TV to stream the meetings.

1846

Co-Chair Martel read the notes from the Commissioner's retreat held on 1 Dec 2018.

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- Co-Chair postpone the review of the recommended by-law changes until the next meeting in Jan 2019.
- Commissioner Roach brought up the attendance of this year's Winter Haven at the DC VA Hospital on 26 Jan 2018. We had a quorum from the commissioners that we should participate. Commissioner Jewitt had developed a flyer that we may be able to hand out at the Winter Haven event. Commissioners discussed what other items could we hand out.
- Commissioner Jewitt and Commissioner Pauling spoke on the timeline for the "Listening Tour" around the community. Host our commission meetings around the community at different locations (populated areas with veterans).
 - Alicia Downs reminded the commissioners that the demographic VSOs was not the way to go for the listening tours.
 - Com Roach thought a Gap Analysis/Benchmarking should be performed so as to determine the proper way of scheduling and scheduling the listening tour verses just selecting a VSO to visit.
 - VFW, 9619, representative stated that he has approximately a 100 veterans attend their location. They provide food to the veterans. The VFW has graciously offered their facility to host one of our meetings. Their
- Commissioner Watson and Co-Chair Martel reminded the audience that the commission is an advocate on behalf of the veterans to the county executive. The commission is not a service and does not have funding to host events or provide assistance to veterans.
- Co-Chair Martel and Com Pauling recommended changing the times of the commission's monthly meeting from 1800 -1900. This action was not totally agreed upon by the commissioners and several guest. Therefore, the commission came up with a consensus that the commissioners would try the 1900 time for Jan and Feb and revisit the time during the Mar 2 Mar 2019 (Saturday) meeting. Com Watson reminded the commissioners that the time and locations were not about what benefitted us but what befits the veterans of the county. Com Roach motion and Com Watson 2nd the motion.
- Com Jewitt asked that we hold our 2 Mar 2019, Saturday, meeting midday all commissioners agreed.

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1945

Co-Chairman Martel

Commissioners render Honors to the colors

1947

Co-Chair Martel

- Adjourned the Meeting

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