



**Southfield Veterans'  
Commission**

**Serving all Vets**

Minutes: June 13, 2011

*Present:*

Commissioners: Tim Wirkus, Gregory Pulliam, Ethel Grossman, Larry  
McLemore, Felix Seldon, Jim Bezy  
Excused: Dan Brightwell  
Professional Staff: Bryan Jarrell  
Volunteers & Visitors: Pat Beach, Susan Rodgers, Sue Cuevas

Meeting opened with pledge of allegiance at 6:30PM by Felix in room 111.

Meeting Minutes:

Gregory read the May meeting minutes since Tim was unavailable for that meeting. On a motion by Tim, seconded by Larry, the minutes were approved.

Introduction of Guests:

Tim introduced Pat Beach & Susan Rodgers from Advanced Counseling Services of Southfield. They are part of a national wide group called Give an Hour, where local counselors provide help to returning soldiers and their families. Sue Cuevas, from the City's Human Services department was also introduced. She wanted to learn more about this program.

Pat & Susan described the Give an Hour program, who would be seen as part of the program, what costs were, and what follow up services would be available to those that asked for their help.

Sue Cuevas, after Pat & Susan left, indicated that this was a fine service but that we need to be careful in recommending them since they are a commercial, for profit, firm and although they are providing a free service at the start they probably would charge for any follow-up services rendered.

Chair Report:

Felix indicated that the Michigan Veterans' Foundation will be hosting a dinner this coming Saturday, the 19<sup>th</sup>, at 4PM. We are invited to attend.

Indicated that there would not be a meeting of the commission in either July or August.

Treasures Report:

Gregory passed out a copy of a report that he had obtained from the city. This report stated that our Trust Account had a current balance of \$4465.17. On a motion by Jim, seconded by Larry, the report was accepted, subject to audit.

Old Business:

Veteran of the Year Award:

A discussion took place among the commission members as to whom this award should be given to, with the general feeling that for this year it should be awarded to former Police Chief Joe Thomas. On a motion by Tim, seconded by Jim, it was approved that the former PD chief would be given the award in November. Jim indicated he would work on the plaque.

Memorial Day:

Felix reported that the service in front of city hall went well and that a large number of veterans participated.

Police Report:

Brian indicated nothing to report, but that he had worked with Gregory in obtaining the report from the city on our Trust Account.

New Business:

College Fair:

Tim reported that he has been in contact with Michael Brennan, Veterans chair at Oakland University, on putting together a college fair where all the public colleges and universities in the state would attend to tell vets what programs and benefits they would receive if they attended their school. More details as they become available. Looking at an October date for this seminar.

Flag Day:

Tomorrow is Flag Day and there will be a flag retirement ceremony at the Fire Department HQ on Lahser Road. The ceremony starts at 11AM and commission members are urged to attend.

One Soldier's Story:

The new Keith Farnie movie will be showing at the Imagine Theater on the 29<sup>th</sup>. Tim is working on getting free tickets for the event for the commission members.

The next meeting of the commission will be on September 12<sup>th</sup>, 6:30PM, in the Parks & Rec Bldg.

*On a motion by Tim, seconded by Ethel, the meeting adjourned at 8:15PM.*

Tim Wirkus  
Secretary