

Meeting Minutes – SVC  
Monday, November 13 , 2017

Commissioners Present:

Vice Chairman, Mr. Gerald Houston  
Mrs. Barbara Seldon  
Secretary, Mrs. Marie Watson  
Mr. Timothy Wirkus

Commissioners Absent:

Chairman, Mr. Gregory Pulliam - excused  
Mr. Benjamin Clarke - inexcused  
Dr. Rodney Caruthers - excused

Professional Staff:

Lt. Christine Miller

Visitors:

Danny Craig – 14<sup>th</sup> District Chairman of Veteran’s Committee, AARP  
Advocate, Tuskegee Airman of Southfield

6:38 pm – Meeting called to order with Pledge of Allegiance

After review of the October meeting minutes it was reported that Mrs. Seldon’s name was Seldon not Sullivan. Once that was corrected Mr. Wirkus motioned to accept minutes with correction. Marie Watson seconded the motion. It passed unopposed.

The Vice Chair had many comments:

-Mr. Houston would like to see us use our influence to strengthen veteran causes (i.e. World War II, Garth Whooten).

-Mr. Houston also asked why meeting minutes were not on our website. He was told they would be put up.

-He suggested that we redefine our objectives to work on the history project (Congresswoman Lawrence is now sending to us) and to Honor Veterans when they pass on in the form of a card of condolence to the family.

-Mr. Houston attended the Empowerment Breakfast on 11/12/17 and told us about the wall they had made. In addition, he showed us the certificate they gave each vet.

- He also stated that he heard there 42 veterans in Brookdale Home for Southfield Seniors ranging from World War II to Vietnam. He created a letter of introduction and trying to get interviews for History Project.

## Lt. Miller's Report

-Councilman Mandelbaum had overseen the review and swearing in of Mrs. Seldon to the council. She stated that Mrs. Seldon was chosen over Mr. Craig even though he had been attending meetings because she is a Southfield resident where Mr. Craig is not.

-The transfer has been made from SVC account to Human Resources and is confirmed. Human Resources was looking for a paper check instead of an electronic transfer.

## Treasurer's Report

-Dr. Caruther's emailed that there had been no change to the SVC balance. The total was \$7000.07

-Mr. Wirkus presented a check to SVC for disks of interviews.

## Old Business:

**Veteran's History Project** — Mr. Houston and Mr. Wirkus will be working with Brookdale's activities director to get in and do interviews on site.

Mrs. Watson presented her idea of a business card to gather more candidates for history project interviews. This was tabled until after the first of the year.

**Veteran's Hotline** — Mr. Houston checks 3 times a day. He wants more places to refer veterans to. #211 is the United Way, the VA will house veterans homeless or in crisis 877-424-3838.

**Veteran's Day Celebration Report** — Mrs. Seldon said it was very nice at the city and very meaningful. She then asked what role SVC plays in the celebration. Mr. Wirkus told her SVC has no role that is a city run event. Then she said the wreath they place at the memorial is getting old.

## New Business:

-Mrs. Seldon talked about buying bricks at the Parks and Recreation for a garden. She was told she could discuss that with Terry Fields.

-Mrs. Seldon asked about the visibility of the SVC at the MLK walk in January. Mr. Wirkus said that we purchase an ad every year but that is the extent of what SVC does.

-Mrs. Seldon asked about more visibility in the Southfield Calendar. Lt. Miller said we need to talk to Michael Manion. Mrs. Seldon was going to follow up with him about honor veterans for May and November with photos and putting SVC information into the calendar.

Public Comments:

- **Mrs. Seldon reported that she had been in Washington D.C. for the Veteran's parade.** Further that she had been part of the ceremony placing a wreath at **the Unknown Soldier's Tomb.**
- Mr. Craig reported that his event at Wayne County Community College had been held that day. He said it was a very good event that was well received. Bill Bernette was main presenter.

Tim Wirkus moved for adjournment of the meeting at 742 with Mrs. Watson seconding. The motion passed unopposed.