

Meeting Minutes – SVC  
Monday, October 8, 2017

Commissioners Present:

Chairman, Mr. Gregory Pulliam  
Vice Chairman, Mr. Gerald Houston  
Secretary, Mrs. Marie Watson  
Mr. Timothy Wirkus

Professional Staff:

Lt. Christine Miller

Visitors:

Danny Craig – 14<sup>th</sup> District Chairman of Veteran's Committee  
Barbara Sullivan

6:53pm – Meeting called to order with Pledge of Allegiance

After review of September 2017 meeting minutes Mr. Wirkus motioned for approval as written. Mr. Houston corrected that his title is not Assistant Chairman but Vice Chairman. With that change, Mr. Houston seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Old Business:

**Chairman's report** – Mr. Pulliam had heard from Mrs. Sullivan requesting that she be allowed to come to the October meeting. Mrs. Sullivan's husband was a founding member of the SVC. She also served in the military from 1961 -1964.

**Southfield Police Department report** – Lt. Miller said she sent the updated treasury report to Dr. Caruthers accurate to October 2, 2017. She also stated that Councilman Mandelbaum was going to meet with possible candidates to fill the spot left by Mr. Chapman.

**Treasurer report** – Emailed in as Dr. Caruther's off on sabbatical until January 2018 (approved by board in May of 2017). \$7000.07 in account.

**Veteran's Seminar report** – Mr. Houston said we need to set a target audience and work for a smaller group then set a date.

**Veteran's History Project** – Mr. Houston copied fliers to every member present to pass out when we talk with veterans. He has contacted 13 veterans, of which 10 are female, for interviews. 3 replies but nothing set to date.

Hotline update – Mr. Houston asks for a list of organizations to help veterans when they call after stating that he fielded 22 calls in the last month for information. Mr. Wirkus says put them through to Garth Wooten at Oakland County. Then we discuss putting list on our website. It is decided that each organization discussed at meetings will have phone numbers attached and put into the meeting minutes.

Mr. Craig stated that Brenda Jones is having a task force meeting in the City County building in Wayne county on the 13<sup>th</sup> floor.

-Veteran's Trust Fund is on Crooks Road in Troy. They will fund up to \$5000 for unforeseen emergencies as long as you have no arrears. 248-655-1265.

-211 on your phone. This number is funded by the VA. You have the veteran state, "I am a veteran and I have a big problem....."

-Buddy to Buddy can help find whatever is needed with recommendations. The number is 888 -822-8339.

Mr. Houston asks the Commission at large "What are we going to do with the Tyrone Chapman situation? How do we finalize it? Mr. Chapman resigned on the phone to two members and also in person. Then he tells members of the Commission that Mayor Siver says he is still a sitting member.

Mrs. Watson asks if a letter has been sent to Mr. Chapman by the Chairman as required by the SVC bylaws. It is determined that there has been no letter. Mr. Houston volunteers to write the letter Mrs. Watson volunteers to proofread the letter. Lt. Miller suggests having the City attorney ready it before it is sent via certified mail to Mr. Chapman. A motion was made to move forward as stated by Mr. Houston and seconded by Mr. Pulliam. The motion is passed unopposed.

New Business:

The Post Office is holding a Veteran's Day ceremony on 11/9/17 from 830-9am.

The City of Southfield is holding a Veteran's Day ceremony in front of City Hall on 11/9/17 at 11am.

Mrs. Sullivan introduces herself and expresses interest in joining the SVC. Her husband was a founding member of the commission. Mrs. Sullivan served in the military from 1961-1964. She holds two Masters degrees. She is a retired professor from the University of Detroit. She also sat as the Assistant Dean for Diversity and Inclusion.

Veterans Community Forum on 11/13 will be 2 hours long with a program and 30 vendors. Sponsored by Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence.