

## MINUTES

**Quarterly Meeting of the  
Missouri Veterans Commission  
Held, pursuant to notice  
September 13, 2010 — 10:00 AM  
St. Robert Municipal Center, 194 Eastlawn Avenue,  
Council Chamber Room, St. Roberts. MO**

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### I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance
- B. Roll Call  
In attendance: Chair John Comerford; Vice Chairman Emmett Fairfax;  
Member Paul Connors; Member Joseph Frank; Member Nancy Nelson;  
Member Frank Barnitz; Member David Pearce; Member Barney Fisher;  
Ex-Officio Member Dalton Wright  
Absent: Member Jason Kander
- C. Guests and staff present:
  - 1. Guest: James & Kathryn Whitfield; Alice Fairfax; Michael Dobbs,  
Lowry Finley-Jackson; Michael Elmore; Kimberly Tatham;  
Kathleen Fogarty; Lynn Dorrell; Jessie & Charlotte Jones;  
Raphael Wahwassuck; Representative David Day; Dewey Riehn;  
Dick & Carolyn Sanford; Frank Prosser; Charley & Claudia  
Goodin; J H Lale; LR Steele; Carl Niewoehner; Jack Matthews;  
James Fountain; Frank Williams; Robert Osborn; Kenneth  
Hoffman; Stephen Gaither; John Eckhoff; Lee Smith
  - 2. Staff: Larry Kay, Executive Director; Bryan Hunt, Deputy Director;  
Jill Talken, Executive Secretary; Omar Davis, General Counsel;  
Kim Cleeton, Director Homes Program; Stan Baughn, Director  
Cemetery Program; Doug Meyer, Director Veteran Services  
Program; Tim Norton, Director Facilities Operations; Julie Miller,  
Fiscal and Administrative Manger; Melissa Wilding, Ombudsman;  
Daniel Bell, Public Relation Office; Becky Wolken, Administrative  
Assistant; Pat Behen, Assistant Director Home Program; Steve  
Maples, Director State Veterans Cemetery-Springfield; Chuck  
Wooten, State Veterans Cemetery- Springfield; Alfredia Williams,  
Veteran Service Officer; Miriam Flores, VSO Assistant;

### II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Commission Meeting minutes May 3, 2010  
Commissioner Fairfax made a motion to approve the minutes of May 3,  
2010 and Commissioner Barnitz seconded the motion. The minutes were  
unanimously approved as written.
- B. Commission Meeting Special minutes June 23, 2010

Commissioner Fisher made a motion to approve the Special minutes of June 23, 2010 and Commissioner Fairfax seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved as written.

### **III. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Executive Director's Report was delivered by Larry Kay

- A. Budget – Currently on track, however concerns with FY 2012 budget which will be discussed at the November Commission Meeting.
- B. OA Maintenance Consolidation –The Missouri Veterans Commission is exempt from consolidation.
- C. Distributed 2011 Director's Intent
- D. Distributed 2011 Game Plan
- E. State Veterans Cemetery – Fort Leonard Wood Dedication today September 13, 2010 at 1:00 p.m.
- F. Distributed DRAFT State Benefits Guide for Missouri Veterans and Military

### **IV. PROGRAM REPORTS**

Program Reports were delivered (Powerpoint presentation) by Bryan Hunt, Deputy Director

MVC Annual Leadership Conference September 20-23, 2010.

Residents and families of the St. James State Veterans Home have been notified by letter of the closure of St. James State Veterans Cemetery.

An In-Service Educational Training was held for Veteran service organizations matching grants recipients on August 31 to discuss policies/procedures. Commissioner Frank expressed concerns with the grant reporting and requested a copy of the Veteran Service Organization Grants Policy be distributed to all Commissioners in addition to a copy of quarterly reports.

The Veteran Services Program recently cancelled a few travel stops in some areas where client numbers are very low but will continue outreach efforts in these areas.

### **V. STAFF REPORTS**

Staff Reports were delivered by Tim Norton, Julie Miller, Omar Davis and Melissa Wilding

Commissioner Frank expressed concerns with budget cuts.

The Commission will vote at the November Quarterly Meeting on proposed changes to Code of State Regulations.

## **VI. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Legislative Update was delivered by Commissioner Pearce

The Commission will continue to work with MAVO on any MVC legislative initiatives.

Legislative Freshman Tour has been cancelled this year. It is important that we contact incoming freshman legislators to educate them on Commission.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

Presentation to Mr. John Eckhoff for his commitment and leadership in serving the Veterans of the State of Missouri as Manager St. Louis County Veterans Programs.

## **VIII VOTE TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION**

Member Fairfax made a motion to go into closed session. Member Pearce seconded the motion. By a voice vote the motion passed unanimously.

## **IX. VOTE TO GO INTO OPEN SESSION**

Member Barnitz made a motion to go into open session. Member Connors seconded the motion. By a voice vote the motion passed unanimously.

## **X. OTHER BUSINESS**

- A. Stephen Gaither, Public Affairs Officer Harry S. Truman Memorial Veterans' Hospital Columbia:
- The ribbon cutting ceremony for the Sedalia, Mo. VA Clinic is scheduled at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 22. The new clinic is located at 3320 West 10th Street.
  - Effective immediately, at least one Veteran will be part of any construction project design team at Truman VA Hospital whenever the project has direct impact on patients.

## **XI. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would be held on Monday, November 8, 2010. Location to be determined.

**XII. ADJOURMENT**

With no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. D. Kay". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

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Larry D. Kay, Secretary