

**VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMISSION**

**CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA**

**September 8, 2016**

**5:30 PM**

**Veteran's Council Conference Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor**

Present: Gary Grant, Chairman Constance Arens, Vice Chairwoman  
John Powers Sherri Schuchmann  
Mike Jager, Executive Director Kristin Delfs  
Teri Van Dorston, Assistant Director Nikee Woods, Administrative Assistant

Excused: Jerry Ziese Cindy Guckenberger  
Scott Olson

Guests: Mike Chismar

The regular meeting of the Veterans Memorial Commission was called to order by Chairman Grant at 5:29 PM.

**Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes:**

Commissioner Delfs made a motion to approve the minutes of the July meeting; seconded by Commissioner Arens. The motion carried with no objections.

**Financials:**

Commissioner Powers made a motion to approve the August and September bills; seconded by Commissioner Schuchmann. The motion carried with no objections.

**Museum Report-Assistant Director:**

A.D. Van Dorston shared a laminated article on our newest exhibit, 'In-Flight' from the local Cedar Rapids Gazette for all present. The A.D.'s report of short term goals includes preparing all of our exhibits for the Veterans Day crowd, including a new slideshow in the Vietnam exhibit. A.D. also presented the much needed revised and refreshed Grant Wood Memorial flyer. It is planned to distribute these and other VMB promotional flyers with local agencies and rest stops throughout Iowa.

**Communications from the Metro Veterans Council – including Stand Down event & upcoming “Safe Halloween” at Ushers Ferry in cooperation with Parks Department:**

Commissioner Powers shares that the MVC is preparing for their annual event, Veterans Stand Down, to be held September 9, 2016 at the Veterans Memorial Stadium. The MVC revised the process for Veterans that will attend, to encourage use of the community resources available. The MVC annual Veterans Day program will likely have Kennedy High School's choir to join the New Horizons band. The guest speaker is still being determined for the event. A mention was also included that the MVC is still seeking nominations for Veteran of the Year to be announced at the Veterans Day program.

Commissioner Delfs reports that the VMC is again participating in the "Safe Halloween" in connection with the City of Cedar Rapids Parks Department at Ushers Ferry open to the public for a small fee on October 23, 2016 during the day. She has been acquiring many items for successful VMC participation in 2016 to hand goodie bags for attendees. If any VMC members would like to contribute, please contact Commissioner Delfs directly.

**Public Comment:**

Mike Chismar would like to note a reference to the VMC that in 2017, the Department of Defense in conjunction with the United States Navy are going to sponsor the Warrior games in Chicago, IL. While partnering with MMO, a small group is planning to come together to support and participate in the games of 2017.

Commissioner Arens invites all to join in sending or welcoming back the Eastern Iowa Honor Flight, set for September 20, 2016 at the Eastern Iowa Airport. Send off begins at 5:30 a.m. and they arrive home at approximately 9:30 p.m.

Commissioner Powers made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:52 p.m.; seconded by Commissioner Delfs. The motion carried with no objections.

Respectfully submitted,

Nikee Woods, Admin. Assistant

CHAIRMAN \_\_\_\_\_ Date

VICE CHAIRWOMAN \_\_\_\_\_ Date