



COMMISSION FOR VETERANS  
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES  
6420 ALLENTOWN ROAD  
CAMP SPRINGS, MD 20748



## COMMISSION FOR VETERANS PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

Minutes of January 4, 2010

Vice Chairman Devlin called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, January 4, 2010. The meeting was conducted at the Harriet Hunter Building, Department of Family Services, 6420 Allentown Road, Camp Springs, Maryland 20748. The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted to start the meeting. Note: Chair Turner was out of State on business and Vice Chair Devlin was asked to Chair this evening's meeting.

Vice Chair Devlin stated that the Minutes for December 7, 2009 were distributed, Commissioner White made a motion that the Minutes be accepted, second by , motion passed.

Roll call of Commission Members: Vice Chair Devlin; Commissioners Begenwald, Lambird, Martel, Parker, Powell; White and Secretary Chatary were present. Chair Turner, Commissioners Alexander, Murphy, Nordhorn, Phillips and West were excused; a quorum was present.

Vice Chair Devlin called for Committee Reports to be presented at this time:

Veteran's Employment Services and Development Committee: Commissioner/Chair Murphy was excused, no report.

Veteran's Benefits Services Committee: Commissioner/Chair West, excused, no report. Vice Chair of the Committee Martel reported that he and Commissioner West is working on the Survey.

Legislative Committee: Commissioner/Chair Parker gave his report and distributed a copy of his report to those present. Vice Chair Devlin reported that the Slots Bill and the Subtraction Modification Bill for pension benefits for retired military have been introduced in both Houses.

Public Affairs Committee: Commissioner/Chair Alexander was excused, no report.

Vice Chair had a copy of the proposed Commission's Annual Report given to all present and a brief recess was called so everyone could review the contents. He further stated that if anyone has any suggestions on adding anything to the report, this will be considered after the recess. After the recess, Vice Chair Devlin stated that if anyone had any additions or corrections, please email them to him. There was discussion among those present about the report. Vice Chair Devlin stated he will take all input under consideration and send the revised report to Chair Turner.

**Unfinished Business: None**

**New Business: None**

**Good of the Order:** Secretary Chatary stated that he has been remiss in not putting a subject line on the emails he sends out and will, in the future, have the subject line filled out so you will know what is being sent. He asked that the Commissioners do the same when sending emails, especially when it pertains to Commission business or veterans issues.

Commissioner White talked about the program on 60 Minutes on Sunday evening regarding the VA and how long it is taking to get claims filed and processed. There are over a million claims in back log right now and it is getting worse. If you missed the program, you may be able to view it on line through the CBS website or on You Tube.

Vice Chair Devlin stated that if anyone wants to know what is going on in Annapolis on Veterans Bills, just bring up Maryland General Assembly and this will give you the bill hearings and dates. Most hearings are on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and normally start at 1:00 p.m.

The Slots Bill for veterans clubs and other non profit clubs was brought up and was discussed at length. It will be very important for the Commissioners to be in touch directly with all the Legislators in their District and let them know how important it is for them to be sponsors on veterans bills.

Motion by Commissioner Martel to adjourn the Commission meeting, second by Commissioner White, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m. The next Commission meeting will be on Monday, February 1, 2010 at the same location at Family Services, Camp Springs, Maryland.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Raymond A. Chatary*

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Secretary