



BALTIMORE COUNTY COMMISSION ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Meeting Agenda – April 26th, 2023

Date / Time:

April 26th, 2023 / 6:00pm-8:00pm

Location:

Baltimore County Center for Maryland Agriculture and Farm Park
1114 Shawan Road, Hunt Valley, MD 21030

Call to Order/Roll Call/Quorum: Meeting was called to order by the Chair, Jeff Bonner, at 6:00pm followed by roll call & approval of quorum.

Roll Call:

District 1	Michael Eagle	Present
District 2	George White	Not Present
District 3	Edward Bauer	Present
District 4	Danny Blount	Present
District 5	Robert Eckert	Present
District 6	James Hutson	Present
District 7	Dennis Cash	Present
At-Large	Jeff Bonner	Present
At-Large	Shawntae (Jay) Jacobs	Not Present
At-Large	Charles Jay	Present
CCBC Education Representative	Derrick Little	Present
Department of Corrections	Jerlena Rhodes-Cadell	Present
Department of Health and Human Services	Richard Chilton	Not Present
Dept. of Housing and Community Development	Terry Hickey	Not Present
Baltimore County Fire Department	Ed Schwartz	Not Present
Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion	Warren Squirewell	Not Present
Baltimore County Police Department	Joe Jamerson	Not Present

Commission Chair called the meeting to order and reviewed the Baltimore County Commission on Veteran’s Affairs Mission.

- To advocate for the veterans of Baltimore County and connect them to resources through outreach and education.

Commission Chair introduced “Guest Speaker” – Mr. Anthony Woods, Secretary, Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs

Secretary provided a quick overview of the recent history of the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs – *The Department was created by the State Legislature in 1999 as an executive agency with the mission of assisting veterans, active duty service members, their families and*



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dependents, in securing benefits earned through military service.” Secretary Woods then discussed the five programs under the Department of Veterans Affairs - The Service and Benefits Program, The Charlotte Hall Veterans Home, The Cemetery and Memorial Program, The Communications, Outreach, & Advocacy Program, and The Maryland Veterans Trust. Secretary Woods then provided an overview of the proposed veterans’ home in Sykesville and the Veterans Trust. Secretary Woods then took questions from attendees. The majority of questions centered on how best to reach out to veterans.

Chair provided update of past events:

- Vietnam War Commemorative Pinning Ceremony (April 11th, 2023)
- Central Maryland Veteran Collaborative (April 12th, 2023)
- Veterans Treatment Court (April 14th, 2023)

Chair provided update of upcoming events:

- **Baltimore County Veteran Suicide Prevention Coalition Update** - Next session April 27th, 2023 – Commissioner Cash agreed to be the POC on this committee.
- **“Discovering Horses Clinic”** - Saturday, April 29th - 8:30-12:30 pm - Wellspring of Life Farm, 16312 Old York Road, Monkton, MD 21111 (20 spots available for Maryland first responders and military members and spouses)
- **The Eyes of Freedom, A Nationally Traveling Veterans Tribute** - Thursday & Friday May 25/26 3:30 - 8:00pm; Saturday, Sunday, & Monday May 27/29 10:00am - 6:00pm -, Hereford High Auditorium, 17301 York Rd, Parkton, MD 21120 (Note - there will also be a Veterans Resource Event - May 27 through May 29)
- **Honor Flight Maryland** - Saturday, June 17, 2023; All-expenses paid hero’s journey to Washington DC to visit memorials built in their honor. Veterans sign up at www.HonorFlightMD.org.

Chair move to Commission Business Meeting

- Approval of Last Meeting Minutes
 - Commission Chair solicited questions or feedback for the March 29th, 2023 Meeting Minutes.
 - Commission Chair requested motion to approve meeting minutes. Motion provided by Commissioner and seconded.
 - Commission Chair moved to vote on the approval of BCVC Meeting Minutes for March 29th, 2023 - 10 In Favor/None Opposed – March 29th, 2023 minutes approved.
- Update on Business Cards
 - Commissioners approved the draft – all correct except one.
 - Information passed to County POC
- Update on Commission Website
 - Commissioner Eckert provided an update and went over current status.
 - Suggestion of having Commissioner picture and bio on website



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- The chair presented five areas that need to have a lead to move forward with a “Veterans Weekend” event – finance, resource, families, media, & facilities – need leads by May meeting.
- Meeting adjourned 7:48pm