



In-person: 9830 Patuxent Woods Drive / Columbia, MD 21046

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Agenda

09 June 2022

**Howard County Commission for Veterans and Military Families
Hosted by Lisa Terry**

Commissioners:

Greg Jolissaint, Chair

Jonathan Branch, Co-Chair

Jerry Wykoff

Kelly Kesler Ex

Mike Blum

Bob Lowe Ex

Keith McGuire

Michael Griggs

Cherron "Lula" Blakely

Paul Rivers

Reg Avery

Nafrettifi Griffin

1. Roll Call of Commission Members to Establish a Quorum

2. Acknowledgement of Howard County Government Officials in Attendance:

Lisa Terry (Manager, Howard County Office of Veterans and Military Families)

3. **Special Guest(s):**
4. **Others in Attendance: Terry Taylor (nominee to the HCCVMF)**
5. **Welcome by the Commission Chair/Pledge of Allegiance**
6. **Reminders of Virtual Meeting Etiquette**
7. **Guest Speaker(s):**
8. **Consideration of the May 2022 Meeting Minutes (Greg)**
9. **Opening Comments by Commission Chair (Greg)**
 - a. Memorial Day Ceremonies
 - b. Resignation of Bob Lowe
10. **Reoccurring Business**
 - a. Veterans Peer Support Group Update (**Paul Rivers**).
 - b. Howard County Veterans Foundation Update (Bob Gillette; Lisa T).
 - c. Update on VA Mental Health Council and Potential Members (Paul Rivers).
 - d. Outcomes from HoCo Public Schools Simulated Congressional Hearings May 6-June 9 (Reg Avery).
 - e. Update on Veterans Day Presentations in HCPSS and Identifying which schools will want speakers for in-person events. *Pending publication of 2022-2023 Academic Calendar. The Commission supports potentially adding American Legion Essay and Poster Contests for Middle Schools.*
 - f. Update on HoCo Fallen Heroes Tribute page (Lisa Terry).
 - g. Veterans Treatment Court for HoCo (Lisa and Jerry).
 - h. Outcomes from May 25 graduation at Annapolis (Mike Blum).
 - i. Update on HoCo Fallen Heroes Tribute page (Lisa).
 - j. Update on Terri Taylor's nomination by the CE to serve as a Commissioner (Steve Bolen's replacement). Lisa Terry
 - k. Honor Cords for Enlisting HS Graduates (On Hold)
 - l. Outcomes from Memorial Day Ceremonies (Bob Pelletier, Greg Jolissaint)

- 1) Saturday May 28th, 12:30pm, Ellicott City Courthouse Memorial Day (VFW had the lead). POC: John Spain; Speaker: Commissioner Jolissaint
- 2) Sunday May 29th, 12:30pm, Saint Johns Episcopal Church, Ellicott City (American Legion had the lead) POC: Ismael Veguilla-Cruz, Speaker: Commissioner Wykoff
- 3) Monday May 30th, 08:30 am, Harriet Tubman High School (Marine Corps League had the lead) POC: ~~Bill Swain~~; Speaker: Commissioner Griffin

11. New Business

- a. New recommendations are now solicited to fill Bob Lowe's **HCCVMF Veteran Commissioner vacancy** (Greg and Lisa).
- b. **2 Commissioner Volunteers** to participate in HoCo Veterans Foundation Working/ Brainstorming Session on Thursday June 16th from 8:30 am to 1:00pm regarding the text that will be displayed on the HoCo Veterans and Military Families Monument at Millie Bailey Park (located next to Whole Foods on the Columbia Lakefront). The meeting's objective will be to develop recommendations to the HCVF board of directors for the text that will appear on the Monument. Continental breakfast and lunch will be served for participants. Bob and the HCVF are inviting 2 (two) Commissioners to participate in this session that will be held at the Howard County Non-Profit Center, 9770 Patuxent Woods Dr, Columbia, MD 21046 (Greg).
- c. **Commission Webpage vs. FaceBook Page** (Lisa and Greg). Allow posting of photos and Commissioner ceremonial remarks.
- d. **Howard County Joint Military Council Items of Interest** (Michael Jackson, Chair, or Bob Pelletier, Vice Chair).
 - 1) **Clarksville River Hill Independence Day Parade July 4th, 9am-Noon.** Commission is registered as part of a large group (the Joint Military Council of Howard County registered the following Veterans Service Organizations: **HoCo Commission for Veterans and Military Families**; American Legion Post 156 and Post 300; VFW Post 7472; Marine Corps League Detachment 1084; Military Order of the World Wars, (Fort Meade chapter); Jewish War Veterans. **AND** Cub Scout Pack 678, Boy Scout Troop 851, Venturing Crew 156, AL Post 300, baseball team; Old Post Rifle and Pistol Club; Col Dorsey chapter of the DAR and SAR, HoCo CAP and HCCC Student Veteran group).
 - 2) **Flag Retirement Ceremony July 23rd.** VFW Post in Ellicott City.
 - 3) **Howard County Fair** August 6 (booth) and August 7 (parade).
 - 4) **Veterans Day Parade and Lakefront Ceremony.** Sunday November 13. Theme: **Honor Through Service.** Commissioners are asked to please start thinking about potential nominees for Grand Marshall.
- e. **New Business from HCCVMF Commissioners** (Greg, et.al.).
- f. **Recommended Business from other Attendees** (Greg, et. al.).
- g. **Additional Dates of Significance:**

- 1) June 14 – Flag Day
- 2) June 14 – US Army Birthday, 1775
- 3) June 27 – PTSD Awareness Day
- 4) June – PTSD Awareness Month
- 5) July 27 – Korean War Armistice Day, 1953
- 6) August 4 – US Coast Guard Birthday, 1790
- 7) August 7 – National Purple Heart Day
- 8) September 2 – Victory over Japan Day (V-J Day)
- 9) September 11 – Patriot Day in memory of 9-11 victims

12. Next Commission Meeting Dates

- no meetings in July or August
- September 1st vs. September 8th (discussion item)

13. Adjournment