



**Meeting Agenda
HCCVMF Commission Meeting
January 5, 2023**

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Role Call of Commissioners:

Greg Jolissaint, Chair	Michael Griggs
Jonathan Branch, Co-Chair	Cherron "Lula" Blakely
Jerry Wykoff	Terri Taylor
Kelly Kesler	Paul Rivers
Mike Blum	Reg Avery
Nafrettifi Griffin	Keith McGuire
	Vernon "C.J." Parks

- 1. Establish Quorum**
- 2. Recognition of Howard County Government Officials in Attendance (Chair)**
 - *Lisa Terry (Manager, Howard County Office of Veterans and Military Families)
 - *Others
- 3. Special Guest(s):**
- 4. Others in Attendance:**
- 5. Commission Chair Welcome; Chair leads recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.**



6. **Consideration of the November 2022 Meeting Minutes** (Chair)

7. **Opening Comments by Commission Chair** (Greg)

- *Veterans Day Celebration and Howard Community College
- *Veterans Day Dinner with the American Legion in Sykesville
- *Veterans Day Parade and Lakefront Ceremony
- *Commission December Meeting at the Timbuktu Restaurant
- *American Legion Christmas Party at the VFW Hall

8. **Reoccurring or Old Business**

a. Veterans Peer Support Group Update (Paul Rivers)

**vignettes from the Holidays?*

b. VA Maryland Health Care System Mental Health Council (Paul Rivers)

c. Update on Veterans Day Presentations in HCPSS (Reg Avery)

**Summary of School Presentations (School Names; Commissioners who participated)*

d. HoCo Fallen Heroes Tribute page (Terri Taylor)

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/fallen-heroes>

Special Task Force updated recommended inclusion criteria; status of recommendations for creating searchable database; status of recommendations from Lisa Terry regarding the Purpose Statement

e. Veterans Treatment Court Initiative (Lisa Terry)

f. Honor Cords for enlisting HoCo high school graduates (Kelly Kesler, Reg Avery)

g. Commissioners Serving as Judges for the HoCo Public Schools Simulated Congressional Hearings (Reg Avery)

h. Local Health Improvement Coalition Veteran's Resources on www.hclhic.org website. (Kelly Kesler)

i. Recommendations to fill **HCCVMF Veteran Commissioner Avery's impending vacancy**. NOTE: Commissioner Avery is allowed, by statute, to continue serving until a new Commissioner has been approved by the County Council.

11. **New Business**



- a. Veterans Day Parade Lessons Learned – John Spain; participating Commissioners
- b. Wreathes Across America Lessons Learned – CAP (Terri Taylor)
- c. Wreathes Across American Lessons Learned – VFW (Greg Jolissaint, Bob Pelletier)
- d. Howard County Joint Military Council Report (Bob Pelletier, JMC Vice Chair)
 - 1) Holiday Season Buddy Calls
 - 2) Flag Retirement Ceremony January 28th at the VFW Post, Ellicott City, 11am
- e. New Business from HCCVMF Commissioners (Greg)
 - 1) Consolidated List of Organizations formally supported by the HoCo Commission (e.g. Friends of Patapsco Valley State Park and their “Adaptive” Programs)
 - 2) Annual Report Content and photos
- f. Additional Dates of Significance for Veterans and Military Families: The Chair reminded meeting attendees of the following dates and their military significance:
 - 3) January 17: Operation Desert Storm Air Campaign began 1991 (the Air Campaign continued through February 23rd until the “100 hour” Ground Campaign began on February 24th, 1991).

12. Next Commission Meeting Dates

- February 2nd
- March 2nd