

**ODVS Advisory Committee**  
**Thursday, March 17th, 2016**

Chairman LeRoy Clendenen convened the meeting at 10:35 AM at the American Legion Post 171, 393 E. College Avenue, Westerville, Ohio. The meeting was opened with a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. The pledge was followed by a moment of silence.

**Roll Call**

**In Attendance:**

Suzette Price-American Legion  
Merle Pratt- AMVETS  
Don Youngblood-Army & Navy Union  
Tammy Puff-Attorney General  
Mary Ann Janning-Catholic War Veterans  
Paul Haller-County Commissioner's Association of Ohio  
Ken Marcum-Disabled American Veterans  
Ed Zoretic-Korean War Veterans  
Victor Wilson-Ohio National Guard Association  
LeRoy Clendenen-Veterans of Foreign Wars  
David Ridenour-Ohio State Association of Veterans Service Commissioners  
Jane Roland-Ohio State Association of County Veterans Service Officers  
Jon Warmeling-Ohio State Association of County Veterans Service Officers  
Ed Zackery-Ohio State Association of County Veterans Service Officers  
John McCoy-Military Officer Association of America  
Robert Mackin-Ohio State Association of Veterans Service Commissioners  
William Eberle, Marine Corps League  
Carl Price, Military Order of the Purple Heart

**Visitors:**

Steve Ewing, ODVS  
Brian Mead, CCAO  
Jonathan Field, ODVS  
Don Jones-VVA  
Robin Mahady-ODVS  
Jim Beck-Concerned Veterans for America  
Donavan O'Neal-Concerned Veterans for America  
Brian Mead-County Commissioners Assoc.

**Excused:**

April Philiopolus-Advisory Committee for Women Veterans  
Cliff Riley-Vietnam Veterans of America  
Saul Laub-Jewish War Veterans

**Previous Meeting Minutes**

The previous meeting minutes were approved on a roll call vote.

**Agenda-**

The agenda was approved after a motion and a roll call vote.

**Bills and Communications-**

Nothing to report

**Sub Committee Report**

Nothing to Report.

## **Guest Introductions**

Guests in attendance were given an opportunity to introduce themselves and make limited comments.

## **Old Business**

Discussion of opinions regarding Federal Veterans ID cards.

Discussion of opinions regarding Ohio providing Veterans ID cards. The question whether the state should spend resources on the production of the cards if the federal government will be providing the ID cards in the near future. The cards will be issued to veterans who otherwise are not in receipt of VA benefit.

The statement was made indicating the production and availability of ID cards at the county level brings veterans to the CVSO offices and county recorder's offices to have their DD214 recorded. It also allows the CVSO's to discuss any possible benefit with the veteran that he/she may be entitled. Each county can make the decision to offer their veterans an ID card.

Concerns about the recorder's office authenticating the validity of the DD214. The director stated that he had met with the lobbyists for the Recorders Association and talked about the need to make sure the ID's are given to people who truly fit what the bill says, which is "Honorably Discharged".

No action taken at this time.

Subcommittee discussion-we have standing committees, motion to keep the sub committees verses making the ad hoc committees as needed. Motion failed.

## **New Business-**

Sarah Smith from Start Talking was not able to attend.

## **Legislation-**

Legislation has been out in preparation for the recent primary election

**HB 18**-Display of flags-in the Senate for floor vote

**HB 173**-Currently in House Committee, will need to move out of the House and onto the Senate

**HB-235**-allows ALL veterans, not just those separating within ten years of separating from service, to skip concealed carry training to get their concealed carry license free. This past the House last month.

**HB 423** and 424-No movement

**SCR 28**-would urge Congress and the President to pass the Toxic Exposure Research Act. Passed out of the Senate.

**SB 63**- Create an online voters registration system. As mentioned in last meeting, the Advisory Committee endorsed that initiative last year. It is moving through the House at this point.

**SB 239**-Deignation Aug 7<sup>th</sup> as Ohio Purple Heart Day. Passed out of Senate in Jan. and has had one hearing in the House.

**HR-677**-Require the VA to raise disability compensation and indemnity compensation at the same rate as adjustment to the Title 2 Social Security payments. As Social security payments are increased year to year, the VA indemnity and disability would have to be increased at the same rate. Passed the House. Still needs to go through the Senate.

**HR 1475**-Authorize a wall of Remembrance as part of the Korean War Veterans Memorial using private funds. It passed the House unanimously. It still needs to go through the Senate.

**HR 1769**-Toxic Exposure Research Act, passed House committee. It still needs to go through the actual House.

**HR 2915**-Directs the VA to identify mental health care and suicide prevention programs most effective among women veterans.

**Directors Comments-**

State of the State on April 6<sup>th</sup>. There is a lottery for tickets. It is in a very small venue. Director Tansill suggested to the committee that if they have interest in attending that they may want to get their tickets early. The venue will be held in Marietta.

ODVS is setting up in the old Armory that the ONG sold to the city. We are doing a resource fair with 44 table being set up. The Director will be visiting various veterans' organizations and the CVSOs of surrounding counties the days prior.

The Director mentioned the women's panel with 7 women veterans. Two of the veterans were WW2 veterans that are living at the Sandusky Ohio Veterans Home. There were two Persian Gulf Veterans, 3 OIF/OEF veterans were also present. 67,000 women veterans in the state. He has asked the outlying service organizations and county offices to identify their women veterans.

**Upcoming Events-**

**Adjournment-**

Motioned to adjourn  
Roll call to adjourn  
Motion passed

The next meeting of the Advisory Committee April 2016