

The Commission to Establish a Maryland Women Veterans Memorial

During the 2022 legislative session, the General Assembly of Maryland enacted a bill to form a Commission to Establish a Maryland Women Veterans Memorial. Governor Hogan approved the bill on May 16, 2022. The Act took effect on July 30, 2022 and shall remain in effect until June 30, 2024.

The Commission will provide recommendations for the funding, design, construction, and placement of an appropriate memorial dedicated to Maryland Women Veterans. As prescribed in the statute, ten commissioners have been appointed, including two members of the Maryland Veterans Commission (MVC), four representatives from Veterans Service Organizations, two representatives from the Maryland Department of General Services (MDGS), one representative from the Maryland National Guard (MNG), and a designee from the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA). In addition, MDVA is providing an administrative staff member.

The Commission is chaired by Karen Calvert (MVC) and the vice chair is Elizabeth “Betsy” Deacon (American Legion). The MDVA Administrator is Penny Collins (FRA). Other commissioners are: Mike Moore (MVC); LaChrisha Parker (VFW); Denise Perry (NABVETS); Elaine May Stem (Catholic War Veterans); Ellen Robertson (MDGS); Maryland Capitol Police Sgt. Kimberly Bell (MDGS); Brigadier General Jori Robinson (MD Air National Guard); and Roslyn Jones (MDVA).

The Commission is meeting on a regular basis and is being briefed by several recognized experts on development, design and construction of several similar state and national memorials. They are interested in collecting relevant information and suggestions from any interested citizen of Maryland. Please send your advice and thoughts to MdVetMem@gmail.com.