

**City of San Antonio
City Commission on Veteran Affairs**

Minutes- Pending Review- DRAFT



A meeting of the Veteran Affairs Commission was held at Phil Harberger Park, Urban Ecology Center, 8400 N.W. Military Highway, San Antonio, TX 78231 on 07 February 2022 at 6:30 pm, and discussed the following matters:

Meeting was called to order and Pledge of Allegiance conducted.

Co-Chair conducted Roll Call.

- In Attendance, D1 Cris Vieyra Jr.(excused), D4 / Co-Chair Juanita Sepulveda, D5 John Gauna, D6 Oliver Carr (OC) (attended through zoom however camera not always active; able to monitor but not vote), D7 Philip Beekley, D8 Tracy Potts, D9 Burt Quintanilla, D10 Kevin Crozier, Mayoral Representative/ Chair Richard Delgado Jr.
- Not in Attendance: D3 Edward Fears (excused), D2 (pending appointment)
- CoSA Staff in Attendance: Debe Clark (OMVA), Marc Wonder (DHS)

Public Comment:

Chair asked if any public comment. No public comment

Approval of Minutes:

D4 motioned to approve minutes from 18 January 2022. D1 seconded the motion. **Item approved.** OMVA tasked to change minutes to final and post on VAC website. (Action completed on 10 February 2022).

Agenda Items:

Chair moved to agenda items including information and voting items.

1. By Laws Subcommittee (D8)
 - a. D8, Subcommittee lead, requested D7 addition to subcommittee. D7 added. For record subcommittee includes D1, D7, and D8 as lead with Chair as advisor.
 - b. D8 provided updated timeline with proposal of full rewrite later. Discussion ensued. Chair request for full rewrite now with intent for document to need no edits for 10 years. Subcommittee agreed and will reconsider content of the documents.
2. Elizabeth Dole Foundation (EDF) Hidden Heroes City (HHC) Subcommittee. (Co-Chair/ D4)
 - a. Subcommittee members meeting again on 21 Jan including D4 as lead, D6, D10 and OMVA Debe Clark as advisor.
 - b. D4 provided back brief including intent to host a caregiver luncheon in May with D6 Council Woman taking the lead for city proclamation. Subcommittee will also slowly extend outreach to community to join. Subcommittee serving as moderator for EDF HHC San Antonio Facebook page. Debe Clark clarified this is not a City of San Antonio page but an EDF page the VAC moderators for them. Discussion ensued including that each CM has funds they could consider contributing to the caregiver recognition and representatives should consider this for this event and future recognitions.
3. Discussion on city bonds, greenspace, and any impacts to Military and Veterans. (Mayoral/ Chair)
 - a. Discussion that bonds will go to city council in two weeks. Representatives should talk to their Council Members to ensure veterans perspective are included.
4. Healthy Veterans Initiative (D8)

- a. D8 requested to postpone item. Also requested an alternative host for March's meeting. Debe Clark and D1 will look for alternative location.
 5. Veterans Code Enforcement Remedies Discussion (Co-Chair/ D4)
 - a. D4/co-chair continued discussion that this is a gap and the target audience is aging veteran population. Also stated it is a way to bridge gap across districts and across veterans and non-veteran citizens.
 - b. Marc Wonder recommended VAC request a RFP to fund a non-profit like adapt-a-vet.
 - c. Debe Clark briefed pending sync meeting with Code Enforcement to ask for notice of veteran violations and how to identify veterans.
 - d. Discussion to be continued at the next meeting.
 6. Special Interest Focus Topic: Disabled Veterans and Accessibility Parking (D9)
 - a. D1, D7, D8, D9, D10 attended pre-meeting discussion lead by D9.
 - b. Main issues with state change to disabled veteran licenses plates is lack of awareness of change and secondary is the process for change.
 - c. D9 will work with attendees to develop a flyer for sharing to council and to citizen to increase awareness.
 7. Chair proposes meeting be extended by 15 minutes. D1 makes a motion for approval. D10 seconded the motion. **Item approved.**
 8. District Representative and Staff Liaison Updates:
 - a. Staff Liaison: upcoming initiatives / projects districts can get involved with: Lat Feb Marine Brass Band, April Month of the Military Child and event at Hemisfair (next VAC the representatives will create a video clip), May Caregivers efforts, June Women Veteran day efforts, June, Army Birthday, none known at this time for July and August.
 - b. Co-chair states the Mayors appreciation for the representatives.
 - c. No additional updates from Districts.
 9. Chair proposed meeting conclude. D1 makes a motion for approval. D4/Co-chair seconds the motion. All vote in favor to adjourn at 817pm.
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Nothing Follows.