

The Veterans Affairs Commission (VAC) held a meeting at Flagship Health (7616 Culebra Rd, San Antonio, TX 78251) on 18 January 2024. At 4:02 PM, the Chair called the meeting to order.

Representatives conducted the Pledge of Allegiance. The Chair conducted role call and quorum was established.

- **Representatives in Attendance:** Carlos Acosta (D1), Burrell Parmer (D2), Juanita Sepulveda (D4/Co-Chair), Walter Rogers (D6), James Smith (D7), Gwendolyn Godlock (D8), Burt Quintanilla (D9), Kevin Crozier (D10), Richard Delgado JR. (Mayoral/Chair)
- **Representatives Not in Attendance:** Edward Fears (D3), John Gauna (D5)

Additional attendees for record noted by Staff Liaison include:

- **CoSA Staff in Attendance:** Nathan Roberts (MVAD), Sean Simler (Flagship Health), Garrett Stacy (Flagship Health), Mark Cason (D3 Community Liaison), Shameka Wiggins (D4 Community Liaison), Larissa Martinez (D6 Community Liaison)

Chair led the meeting through the following items:

1. Opening Remarks

- a. Chair provided opening comments. Requested that district representatives provide consistent reports and complete Financial Disclosure Reports.
- b. Public Comments.
 - i. Sean Simler and Garrett Stacy spoke about the venue, Flagship Health, and the services that they provide for Veterans.
- c. Approval of last meetings minutes. D10 motioned to approve and D6 seconded the motion. **(Minutes Approved)**

2. Representative Briefs

a. Secretary.

- i. Commission discussed community liaison reports. Chair emphasized the importance of providing regular updates to accompany the meeting minutes.
- ii. Commission discussed vacancies for Community Liaisons. Chair encouraged commissioners to identify individuals who are willing and qualified to serve in those roles.

b. Representative Briefs

- i. District Representatives briefed areas of concerns, need for assistance, and new initiatives in districts.
 - ii. Carlos Acosta introduced himself as the new District 1 representative.
 - iii. D4 discussed issue with Veterans needing clarification on DV Plate laws. Also discussed Hidden Heroes efforts in San Antonio, need for mental health support for Veterans, and plan to resolve last year's issues with Toys for Tots distribution.
 - iv. D6 briefed that he plans to meet with his councilwoman within the next few weeks to get her vision and guidance for the year.
 - v. D7 discussed upcoming plans for a Veteran Coffee event in the spring and invited other districts to unite efforts.
 - vi. D9 briefed American Legion Boy/Girl State Recruiting program for high school juniors and senior.
 - vii. D10 spoke about upcoming events to include a Christmas Party at the end of the year. Echoed D7 that commissioners should work together on planning Veteran events.
- c. Military and Veteran Affairs Staff Liaison**
- i. SL discussed upcoming events to include dates of unaccompanied funerals and USAA's Military Spouse Leadership Development Program. Additionally, SL provided a reminder on the due date for annual Financial Disclosure Forms.

3. Veterans of the Year Program

- a. D2 provided an update on the Veteran of the Year Program. Each district will identify a Veteran of the Year who will be recognized at a city council session in November '24. Each representative will speak to their councilmember about the nomination process for their district. CCPF Program is the proposed source of funding to purchase awards.

4. Closing Comments

- a. Chair recapped the due outs from meeting. D8 volunteered to plan and host the next VAC meeting on 18 March.
- b. Meeting adjourned at 5:28 with a motion by D4 and seconded by D1. **(Adjourned)**