



## ***Alameda County Veterans Affairs Commission***

### ***Monthly Meeting Minutes***

***Date: September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022***

***Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.***

***Location: Virtual ( Zoom Meeting)***

Meeting Called to order at 10:05am by Vice Chair Diane Williamson.

Salute Colors-in-Place

Minute of Silence for MIA POW

***Commissioner's Role Call:*** B. Rizvi(EA); R. Parshall; D. Williamson; F. Jaffin(A); L. Diaz; K. Warner; R. Forbes; J. "Skip" Phair; N. "Nate" Harrison; G. Owens; M. Gilmore; B. Remoaldo (A); O. Farmer(A); J. LoParo; E Gilmore(A).

***Staff Present:*** Clinton Taxdahl, Jennifer Stephens-Pierre

#### **Motion to approval of Minutes for 06/20 and 08/15/22:**

- (M) Harrison
  - (S) Owens
- Approved.

***Public Comments:*** None

***Staff Comments:*** None

***Correspondence:*** None

***Guest Speaker:*** None

#### **Subcommittee Reports**

##### **1. Executive:**

- a. **Vice Chair Williamson:** reminder that all appointed commissioners must take the AB 1234 Ethics Training within a calendar year from appointment.
- b. Please track your ACVAC Terms of Office expiration date. Re-appointments follow the same procedure as initial appointment Terms of Office IAW.

##### **2. Membership:** Ronald Parshall & Luis Diaz

- a. The commission currently has:
  - Fourteen (14) commissioners of 20 positions
  - Fifteen (13) voting commissioners
  - One (1) non-voting commissioner

- Four (4) appointed commissioner openings.
- b. Applications for a new commissioner has been turned in.

**ACTION ITEM: Add Jennifer Stephens-Pierre (ACVSO) to next meeting agenda to give updates regarding the Bylaws**

3. **Budget Sub-committee: Commissioner Phair (2 vacancies)**

- a. Since the Commission does not have a budget but is able to make requests for funds, the Commissioners are encouraged to turn in any upcoming monetary needs for events, outreach, or other Commission efforts to Commissioner Phair as soon as possible so the proper request can be made.

4. **Outreach Sub-committee: Commissioner Williamson (1 vacancy)**

- a. Commissioner Williamson is continuing her efforts to get the word out about the Commission and need for Commissioners.

**ACTION ITEM: Commission to put together a letter explaining the purpose of the Commission that can sent out to all Community and Junior colleges, especially the ones that have a Veterans Office.**

**ACTION ITEM: Add discussion about Veterans Day events for 2022 in the next meeting.**

**ACTION ITEM: Commissioners to bring a list of Veterans Day events that they are aware of so ACVSO can compile all in one list.**

**Motion to create a committee to draft a letter urging the Board of Supervisors to raise awareness to the unjustified delay in construction of the new Veterans Clinic in Alameda Point up to the Federal Government.**

- (M) LoParo
  - (S) Phair
- Approved.

**Motion to have Commissioner LoParo to head the ad hoc committee above**

- (M) Owens
  - (S) Harrison
- Approved.

5. **Staff:** Clinton Taxdahl, Veteran Services Officer

- a. Fremont Satellite Office will reopen in October.

6. **Event(s) Report Summary**

- a. None

7. **Young Campaign Initiative Committee**

- a. Commissioner Farmer: A line needed to be added regarding the strategic vision for the Board of Supervisors; the letter is now with ACVSO to be sent to the Board of Supervisors for approval.

**Announcements**

1. Veterans Media Network is having a “Veterans Day Kickoff” on November 10<sup>th</sup> at the Veterans Memorial Building on Grand Avenue.
2. Mentors needed for Veterans Treatment Court – contact Chair Johnson for further information.
3. Purchase individual and/or Veteran's Organization engraved bricks and pavers. Pavers surrounding the large six-sided granite memorial monument in the center at Veterans Memorial Park, Union City, CA.
4. California State Guard Military Museum Command. We protect, preserve, and intrepid the military history of the state of California. If you have any military artifacts for donation, please feel free to contact Mike Gilmore at [mikegilmore.579@gmail.com](mailto:mikegilmore.579@gmail.com).
5. Some legislation that affects veterans are being waiting for Governor Newsom to sign:
  - a. Assembly Bill 2509 waives DMV fees for Purple Heart Recipients.
  - b. A law that would allow veterans who suffered trauma during service to request for resentencing if convicted of a crime.
  - c. Law that would waive the \$5 fee to include Veteran designation on Driver’s Licenses and IDs
  - d. Bill on Veteran Suicide prevention and female veterans.

***Meeting adjourned at 11:19am.***

***Next Meeting October 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am via Zoom.***