



Alameda County Veterans Affairs Commission

Meeting Minutes

Date: February 22, 2021

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Locations: via Zoom

Meeting Called to order at 10:01 by Steven Johnson.

Salute Colors-in-Place

Commissioner's Role Call: Eugene Cota (absent), Raymond Will (Excused), Baqar Rizvi, Steven Johnson, Diane Williamson, Fred Jaffin, Luis Diaz (absent), Ethel Gilmore (absent), Felix Guillory, Ronald Parshall

Staff Present: Anthony Marchante, Yolanda Newton, Mariana Austin

Correspondence: None

Guest Speaker: None

Report:

1. Membership: Steven Johnson, Ronald Parshall & Luis Diaz
 - a. 1 vacancy in AL, VFW, VVA, DAV, Woman Vets, district 1, district 4, district 5, 2 vacancies nonaffiliated & 1 MOAA
 - Have interested participants VVA (Steven) & DAV (Nate Harrison), MOAA (Fred)
 - Organization submit nomination letter w/application, BOS different process
 - b. According to the roster there are 3 individuals who need to be reappointed to their positions.
 - c. Reach out to Eugene Cota to know if he is still able to attend meetings as he hasn't been present in a year.
 - d. Reach out to VFW posts in Alameda looking for contacts to query chapters of interest in filling commissioner position
 - e. Sending Harrison, VVA (Joe) application & resumes cc Anthony Marchante and request information to be sent back to Anthony Marchante
2. Finance Sub-committee – Felix Guillory
 - a. Nothing to add
3. Bylaws Sub-committee – Steven Johnson , 2 vacancies
 - a. No chair on the Bylaws committee at the moment
 - b. Anthony to review Article 4 Section 2 & VAC Chp 2 due to conflict each other 20 bylaws say 21
4. Outreach Sub-committee – Diane Williamson



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- a. Sent letters out to colleges
- b. Need to figure out what schools are in sessions and follow-up with the heads of the departments
5. Staff – Anthony Marchante
 - a. Currently ACVSO has one 1 VSO, 2 accredited VSRs, 2 clerical persons. Met 100% of the requirements for Prop 63 grants.

Future Agenda Items:

1. April 2021 USS Oakland Commissioning – April 17th
 - a. The ceremony will be adapted to COVID protocol so people will sit in their cars and watch the ceremony live directly or through the giant screen.
 - b. Anyone who would like a promotional invitation please provide a name and address so the material can be sent from the Navy.
2. Announcements
 - a. Commissioner Jaffin asked for Support from VAC for PTSD quarterly meetings on the USS Hornet in late March. Prior Commissioner Peterson ask for Commissioner Jaffin to coordinate with Mark Epperson, no funding needed. Commissioner(s) Jaffin, Williamson, Johnson, Guillory and Anthony Marchante demonstrated interested. Details to follow.
 - b. November 2020 the sponsored Veterans Day event held at sight of the USS Hornet in Alameda. We agreed to send \$500 from budgeted sources listed below. Need status of check disbursement.
 - o \$250 from Veterans Day Outreach
 - o \$250 from Memorial Day or General Outreach
 - c. Jaffin, emailing Johnson, Williamson and Guillory the essential details. Commissioner's reaching out to Anthony for guidance.
 - d. John white passed away last year and he received a proclamation at Hayward City Hall, as well as they are working on having a bench with his name in the Veteran's Building. The commission needs to figure out how the payment for the bench will be made.
3. Commissioner Williamson announced that there will be a Virtual Town Hall on March 10th from 10:00am – 12:00pm help to get the word out.

Meeting adjourned at 11:02

Williamson motion/ Rizvi seconded