



FORT ORD REUSE AUTHORITY

VETERANS ISSUES ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

3:00 p.m., Thursday, April 3, 2014 | FORA Conference Room
920 2nd Avenue, Suite A, Marina, CA 93933

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Edelen called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. The following were present, as indicated by signatures on the roll sheet:

VIAC Members:

Jerry Edelen, FORA Board
Sid Williams, Mo. Co. Military/Vets
Edith Johnsen, Vets Families/Fundraising
Jack Stewart, Cemetery Advisory Comm.
COL Paul Fellingner, US Army POM

FORA Staff:

Robert Norris
Crissy Maras

Others:

Nicole Charles, Sen. Monning
Susan Kastner, USAG
Martin King, USAG
Candace Ingram, CCVCF
Sonja Arndt, Congressman Farr
Richard Novak, USAG-POM
Rich Garza

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Edelen asked Robert Norris to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

Several Monterey County cities were recently named Military Order of the Purple Heart Communities; an honor bestowed upon communities that value military service. Each recipient will receive a proclamation and two signs to be placed at the entrances to their jurisdiction.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Nicole Charles invited members to an open house for Senator Monning and Assembly Member Stone on April 17th from 4:00-6:00 pm. Colonel Paul Fellingner announced that his office would be taking a greater role in veteran's services. He introduced his staff members who are heading that effort. Introductions around the table followed.

5. APPROVE VIAC MEETING MINUTES: October 31, 2013

MOTION: Edith Johnsen moved, seconded by Sid Williams, to accept the February 27, 2014 minutes as presented.

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

6. OLD BUSINESS

a. California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Status Report

FORA Principal Analyst Robert Norris provided a status report on recent legislative missions to Washington D.C. and Sacramento which included meetings with the Department of Veterans Affairs and California Department of General Services. They discussed topics related to clarifying the "revertment" language in the transfer agreement and water provisions. Marina Coast Water District will provide a comfort letter confirming that water used in the construction phase will not count against overall the allocation. DVA provided an updated schedule that reflects adjustments in timelines and bidding the project in June. Environmental review is scheduled to conclude by the

August 24th federal funding deadline. Committee members thanked the Congressman and Senator for their continuing support.

b. VA/DoD Veterans Clinic Status Report

This project is currently in the City of Marina's plan check process. City engineers did not accept the developer submitted schedule and will continue to work with the developer to refine project timing. Tree salvage and removal is expected to begin in May. Sonja Arndt noted the uniqueness of the project as it is the first joint VA/DoD Clinic to be built from the ground up. It will be a state of the art facility with access to many records electronically. Committee members thanked Colonel Fellingner for his support in acquiring a water allocation from the Army.

7. NEW BUSINESS - none

8. ITEMS FROM MEMBERS

Stand Down is scheduled for August 1-3. Assembly Member Stone is hosting a breakfast April 4th. The Heroes' Open golf tournament is scheduled for November 8th with a planning meeting scheduled for April 17th.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Edelen adjourned the meeting at 3:35 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Crissy Maras, Grants and Contracts Coordinator