



APPROVED

**FORT ORD REUSE AUTHORITY
VETERANS ISSUES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (VIAC) MEETING MINUTES
3:00 P.M. May 24, 2018 | FORA Conference Room
920 2nd Avenue, Suite A., Marina CA 93933**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Acting Chair Edith Johnson called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M.

Committee Members Present:

Edith Johnsen, Veterans Families/Fund Raising (***Acting Chair***)
Sid Williams, Monterey County Military & Veterans Affairs Commission (MCM&VAC)
Mary Estrada, United Veterans Council (UVC)
Jason Cameron, Monterey County Office of Military & Veterans Affairs
Richard Garza, Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Foundation (CCVCF)
James Bogan, Disabled American Veterans (DAV)
Jack Stewart, Monterey County California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Advisory Committee
Erica Chaney, CCCVC Administrator

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Jack Murphy.

3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

None.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no comments from the public.

5. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

a. April 26, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION: On motion by Committee member Sid Williams and second by Committee member Mary Estrada. The VIAC approved the April 26, 2018 meeting minutes as amended by unanimous vote.

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

a. **California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery (CCCVC) Status Report**

i. *Cemetery Administrator's Status*

Erica Chaney advised 7 applications to re-establish the Memorial and Monuments Advisory Committee were received. A meeting date is pending, and those who were nominated and or submitted an application will be notified. The CCCVC's first annual Memorial Day Ceremony, will be held on Monday May 28, 2018.

ii. *Veterans Cemetery Land Use Status*

Principal Analyst Robert Norris advised the City of Seaside reviewed the consultant's report on Oak Woodlands, and was accepted without significant modification. The next step the Fort Ord Committee will also review the report.

- iii. *Fort Ord Committee Verbal Report: Oak Woodlands Mitigation & Endowment MOU*
Principal Analyst Robert Norris announced the MOU is still waiting to be placed on the County Board of Supervisors Fort Ord Committee Agenda, due to cancelled meetings.

b. **Fundraising Status**

i. *CCVCF Status Report*

Richard Garza updated the committee regarding current fundraising efforts, and the status outreach and presentations, and articles within the Monterey County Herald and South County Fair Flyer.

Mr. Garza also provided a status on the CCVC Foundation brochures which will be available at CCCVC, and Medical System in Palo Alto.

c. **Veterans Transition Center (VTC) Housing Construction**

Jack Murphy, VTC Deputy Executive Director provided an update on Lightfighter Village, a 71-unit low and extremely low income permanent housing project. The developer paid the City of Marina to process an update of the CEQA, and will be reviewed by the Planning Review Board.

The VTC previously requested VIAC support, in the form of a letter, to the Board of Supervisors asking for the Housing Authority to reconsider issuing Project-Based Vouchers for Lightfighter Village. VTC has proposed language to be included in the letters of support. It is anticipated the letters will be distributed to the VIAC Committee in the next few weeks.

Last week the VTC was featured in the Monterey County Herald with regards to tiny houses. In joint effort between Monterey County Office of Education, CDCR (a state prison system), MPC, Hartnell College, and various organizations to solve the housing crisis by bringing more affordable residential units to the market and obtain donated materials/ and or labor to build 10 units.

The VTC is seeking volunteers for the Monterey Stand Down event, scheduled for September 23-30, 2018. The purpose of this event is to ensure that homeless veterans in distress in the Central California Coast area have an opportunity to receive assistance during the special three (3) day event, held at the Monterey County Fair Grounds.

d. **VA-DOD Clinic**

Mr. Norris provided the committee with a handout from the VA containing FAQ's regarding the current situation at the Clinic and the VA's official position on the status of the pharmacy.

e. **Historical Preservation Project**

No Report.

f. **Calendar of Events**

- VTC Open House, Friday, June 8th, 2018 11:00am to 2:00pm.
- 2018 Retiree Appreciation Day, Saturday, June 9, 2018 8:00am to 12:30pm at the General Stillwell Community Center.
- Project Welcome Home Troops, June 6-10, 2018, at the Veterans Transition Center.

7. ITEMS FROM MEMBERS

Veteran's Cemetery/State Budget

8. ADJOURNMENT at 3:45 P.M.

Minutes Prepared by:
Heidi Lizarbe
Administrative Assistant