



APPROVED

**FORT ORD REUSE AUTHORITY  
VETERANS ISSUES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (VIAC) MEETING MINUTES  
3:00 P.M. January 24, 2019 | FORA Conference Room  
920 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Suite A, Marina CA 93933**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Interim-Chair Edith Johnsen called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M.

**Committee Members Present:**

Ian Oglesby, Mayor of Seaside

Edith Johnsen, Veterans Families/Fundraising

Mary Estrada, United Veterans Council (UVC)

Jack Stewart, Monterey County California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Advisory Committee

Sid Williams, Monterey County Military & Veterans Affairs

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** led by Jack Stewart.

**3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

Principal Analyst Robert Norris announced that the new FORA Board Chair will appoint committee heads at the February 8, 2019 Board Meeting. Mr. Norris noted that FORA has submitted the 2018 Transition Plan to LAFCO, and VIAC Committee will continue.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

There were no comments from the public.

**5. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

a. October 25, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION: On motion by Committee member Williams and seconded by Committee member Stewart the VIAC approved the October 25, 2018 meeting minutes.

**6. BUSINESS ITEMS**

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

i. *Cemetery Administrator's Status Report*

Principal Analyst Robert Norris updated the committee stating he participated in a conference call on cemetery design and environmental issues. Unofficially they are currently at 35% working drawings and the Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Nothing has been officially announced and there is no official schedule. Progress is being made, however it's unclear whether or not the Cemetery will apply for federal funds this fiscal year or next.

ii. *Veteran's Cemetery Land Use Status*

Mr. Norris announced that there has been no official document released since the April 2018 report to the Fort Ord Committee on Oak Woodlands Mitigation. The next phase requires an EIR that covers all expected future phases of the cemetery project.

iii. *Fort Ord Committee Verbal Report: Oak Woodlands Mitigation & Endowment MOU*

Nothing to Report

b. **Fundraising Status**

i. *Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Foundation Status Report*

Candy Ingram advised the Committee that there are three major events this year; the Heroes' Open, Epic Ride, and The Honor Our Fallen Run. Mrs. Ingram announced the Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Foundation (CCVCF) has inherited the Honor Our Fallen Run from the Army and thanked the Army for a wonderful run last year and raising the bar. A year end letter was mailed out, resulting in a response of over \$5,000 in donations. The CCVCF has a new brochure that is being distributed. Mrs. Ingram commended the Marina Foundation on working with the cemetery on the vase program and golf cart maintenance, and going forward the CCVCF has agreed to take on those responsibilities.

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

Mr. Norris reported that there was an informative article in the Monterey Herald in regards to the VTC housing project. The project is entitled to be a \$30 million, 64-unit permanent housing in Marina for veterans and veteran families in need.

d. **VA-DOD Clinic**

Jack Stewart announced that they are still trying to figure out what to do with the pharmacy location, possibly a study area. Sid Williams informed the Committee that the VA-DOD Clinic will continue to have quarterly Town Hall meetings to answer questions.

e. **Historical Preservation Project**

Mary Estrada reported that the Marina Foundation has established an interim board. They are working on paperwork that is required for the State regarding the transition from one Board to the new Board. Plans are still in place to find a group interested in taking over the Historical Preservation Project.

f. **Calendar of Events**

Looking for volunteers for calendar events.

- Feb 5-10, 2019 Pebble Beach AT&T Pro-Am

**7. ITEMS FROM MEMBERS**

COL. Greg Ford reported that the Army is looking at how to modernize and cut costs. There is the potential for certain programs to be cut in FY 20/21.

Command Sgt. Major Marshall voiced appreciation for the Wreaths Across America program. The number of wreaths received the first year has gone from 6 to last year receiving 300 divided between the Monterey Presidio and Benicia cemeteries. The Presidio will be open to the public during the event, and tours are available upon request.

**8. ADJOURNMENT** at 3:45 p.m.

Minutes Prepared by:  
Heidi Lizarbe