



APPROVED

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

- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Ian Oglesby called the meeting to order at 3:07 P.M.

**Committee Members Present:**

Ian Oglesby, Seaside Mayor  
Edith Johnsen, Veterans Families/Fundraising  
James Bogan, Disabled American Veterans  
Kai Yuan, US Army  
Richard Garza, CCVC Foundation  
Sid Williams, Monterey County Military and Veteran Advisory Commission  
Jack Stewart, Fort Ord Veterans Cemetery Advisory Committee

- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by James Bogan.

- 3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND CORRESPONDENCE**

Assistant Executive Officer Josh Metz reported the Board is engaged in ongoing discussion regarding providing funds to the County of Monterey ("County") for ongoing support of the veterans community following FORA's dissolution.

- 4. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

There were no comments from the public.

- 5. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

**ACTION**

- August 22, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes
- September 26, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes

**MOTION:** On motion by member Johnsen and second by member Bogan, the Veterans Issues Advisory Committee moved to approve the August 22, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes and the September 26, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes with corrections.

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

- 6. BUSINESS ITEMS**

**INFORMATION/ACTION**

- Affordable Housing**

- Veterans Transition Center Housing Development***

Marina Veterans Transition Center ("VTC") Deputy Executive Director Jack Murphy provided an update on supportive housing programs. Mr. Murphy reported final occupancy inspections

will be completed next week for an eight bedroom duplex. He stated due to funding limitations these units will be reserved for paroled veterans of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. Mr. Murphy explained the duplex has remained unoccupied since its 1998 transfer to VTC, which represents a net gain to the Hayes Circle development. Mr. Murphy reported VTC staff is optimistic regarding obtaining an enhanced use lease for the Former Fort Ord Clinic to provide housing and other veterans services.

**b. Post-FORA VIAC Committee**

***i. Letter to FORA Board of Directors***

Chair Oglesby reported that Executive Officer Houlemard is in discussions with the County to provide supportive funding for a post-FORA VIAC Committee liaison. Mr. Oglesby stated he expects the Board to approve funding, as the Committee is vital to Monterey County's veterans community. In support of this cause, Mr. Metz encouraged the VIAC to compose a letter to the Board and attend Board meetings to express concerns.

**c. California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Status Report**

***i. CCVCF Status Report***

California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery ("CCCVC") Manager Erica Chaney reported applications for donor benches are no longer being accepted and all inquiries will be forwarded to CCVCF. The Memorials and Monuments Advisory Committee ("MMAC") may consider accepting donor applications after Phase Two completion in order to allow CCCVC's design team sufficient planning time. Ms. Chaney reported a tentative date of December 10, 2019 for the first MMAC meeting, and will notify members when confirmed. Veterans Day Ceremony will take place Monday, November 11, 2019 at CCCVC beginning at 10:30 a.m. with guest speaker William Zeigler, accomplished veteran and former NAACP Chapter President. Ms. Chaney stated a Phase Two construction start date remains to be determined. Committee member Jack Stewart suggested CCCVC hold a Phase Two groundbreaking ceremony and Ms. Chaney stated that she would take the suggestion to staff.

**d. Ord Military Community**

Presidio of Monterey ("POM") Retirement Services Officer Mr. Yuan stated POM Tax Center can no longer provide free support services to retired veterans. Due to 2020 budget constraints POM Tax Center will now provide free assistance to active duty servicemembers exclusively.

**e. Fundraising Status**

***i. Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Foundation Status Report***

Committee Member Richard Garza reported the Heroes Open will take place Saturday, October 26, 2019 at Bayonet and Black Horse Golf Club in Seaside. Mr. Garza reported the Epic Ride is in the process of determining funds raised and stated CCVCF fundraising is on target to address any Phase Two issues that may arise. CCVCF now plans to focus on ancillary projects, such as a chapel and amphitheater. Mr. Garza stated the MMAC will review proposals for an on-site donor recognition wall.

**f. VA-DOD Clinic**

Committee member James Bogan reported the next Town Hall meeting will be held at Post 593 in Prunedale. Mr. Bogan stated he is seeking more information regarding the Veterans Affairs Mission Act and will report back to the Committee.

**g. Military & Veterans Affairs Office – Monthly Report**

No report.

**h. Calendar of Events**

- Mr. Murphy reported VTC was one of several local nonprofits selected to receive donations through the Monterey County Gives campaign. He urged donors to wait until the campaign begins on November 6, 2019 to ensure VTC receives maximum donations. Visit [www.montereycountygives.com](http://www.montereycountygives.com) for additional information.
- Mr. Murphy noted VTC partnered with Dentistry for Veterans to provide free dental services for veterans on Veterans Day, November 11, 2019 at the office of Dr. Curtis Jansen at 34 Dormody Court, Monterey. The program has limited capacity, so please contact Mr. Murphy as soon as possible for treatment pre-screening.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual 11-11 Gala VTC fundraising event will take place on Veterans Day at the Monterey Marriott from 5:00 p.m.- 9:30 p.m. featuring keynote speaker Dr. Charles Hoge, an expert in post traumatic stress disorder and acute anxiety disorders. Visit [www.vtcmonterey.org/11-11-gala](http://www.vtcmonterey.org/11-11-gala) for additional information.
- Mr. Bogan announced the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Veteran of the Year Awards ceremony and dinner will be held Friday, November 8, 2019 at Bayonet Black Horse Golf Club. He noted Representative Sam Farr will be attending to honor three recipients with the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Sam Farr Award for extraordinary service of the veterans community. Contact Mr. Bogan or Michael McFadden of MVAO at [mcfaddenmm@co.monterey.ca.us](mailto:mcfaddenmm@co.monterey.ca.us) for more information.
- The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Heroes' Open golf tournament will be held on Saturday, October 26, 2019 with all proceeds donated to CCVCF. Visit [www.heroesopenmonterey.com](http://www.heroesopenmonterey.com) for details.
- Mr. Yuan reported POM will hold its annual Veterans Day ceremony beginning at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 7, 2019 at the Berlin Wall.

**7. ITEMS FROM MEMBERS**

Mr. Oglesby stated the VIAC would receive an update regarding a letter to the Board at the next Committee meeting. Mr. Williams requested VIAC members receive notification if the Board has this item on any upcoming agendas.

**8. ADJOURNMENT** at 3:38 p.m.

Minutes Prepared by:  
Natalie Van Fleet