



APPROVED

**FORT ORD REUSE AUTHORITY  
VETERANS ISSUES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (VIAC) MEETING MINUTES  
3:00 P.M. February 27, 2020 | FORA Conference Room  
920 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Suite A, Marina CA 93933**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Acting Chair Joshua Metz called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

**Committee Members Present:**

Ian N. Oglesby, City of Seaside – Chair  
James Bogan, Disabled American Veterans  
Col. Gregory Ford, U.S. Army  
Command Sgt. Major Robert Londers, U.S. Army  
Jack Stewart, Fort Ord Veterans Cemetery Advisory Committee  
Sid Williams, Monterey County Military and VA Commission

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sgt. Major Londers.

3. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND CORRESPONDENCE**

Mr. Metz went over VIAC voting members and quorum requirements.

**MOTION:** On motion by Member Williams and second by Member Ford, the Veterans Issues Advisory Committee moved to add Ms. Erica Chaney and Mr. Jack Murphy to the VIAC, remove Mr. Gunter from the VIAC, and make Col. Ford an alternate for Sgt. Major Londers.

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Mr. Metz then made an announcement that Ms. Gaddy took a job with MPUSD and that Natalie Van Fleet will be taking over her position at FORA.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

None

5. **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

- a. October 24, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes
- b. January 23, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes

**MOTION:** On motion by Member Bogan and second by Member Williams, the Veterans Issues Advisory Committee moved to approve the October 24, 2019 and the January 23, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes.

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

6. **BUSINESS ITEMS**

- a. **Affordable Housing**

**INFORMATION/ACTION**

**i. Veterans Transition Center (“VTC”) Housing Development**

Mr. Murphy reported that a bid went out that day regarding renovations on a duplex. He noted that hopefully by the end of the year, 6 duplexes should be finished. Mr. Murphy stated that the Lightfighter project is moving along well, that Monterey County assigned them \$3.5 million and that by the end of this month, the VA should start construction. Housing, affordable housing, and commercial units will be provided. He went on to say that the VTC has received state funding to provide housing for paroled veterans and that they will put out a prevailing wage bid for a Martinez Hall renovation soon.

**b. Post-FORA VIAC Committee**

Mr. Metz reported that FORA’s mid-year budget will be presented at the March 12, 2020 Board Meeting, which will inform discussion regarding Post-FORA VIAC funding. Mr. Metz heard questions and comments from members. Mr. Metz noted that the FORA Finance Committee did not make a recommendation for funds for the veterans community. It will be up to the FORA Board to decide whether any funds will go to the veterans community, and to determine what to do with the remaining funds in the mid-year budget. He recommended that if the VIAC members want to fight for the funding, that they speak at the next FORA board meeting during public comment. Mr. Oglesby noted that the funds were for “priming the pump” for the committee transfer to Monterey County and recommends VIAC members voice their concerns with their respective County Supervisor. Mr. Williams recommended that FORA staff write a report on the VIAC request so that it can be brought forward to the FORA Board.

**MOTION:** On motion by Member Ford and a second by Member Stewart, the Veterans Issues Advisory Committee moved to give Member Oglesby instructions to write a letter to the FORA Board from the VIAC regarding potential funds for the veterans community post-FORA sunset.

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**c. California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery (“CCCVC”) Status Report**

Ms. Chaney noted that construction has been moving quickly on the California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery, Phase 2. She also noted the groundbreaking ceremony has been moved to Saturday, March 21 and that Senator Monning will be attending. She announced that Nicole Hollingsworth has moved on from Senator Monning’s office and will be starting in a new position at CSUMB.

**d. Ord Military Community**

Sgt. Major Londers announced that DLI will be having their Language Day event on May 8, 2020. He also accounted that soon they will be unveiling their newly refurbished cannon on DLI grounds.

**e. Fundraising Status**

**i. Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Foundation (“CCVCF”) Status Report**

Mr. Bogan reported the CCVCF is focused on assisting CCCVC groundbreaking preparations. Mr. Bogan stated CCVCF is considering how to become directly involved in assisting the United Veterans Council Heroes Open Golf Tournament, as well as options for extending CCVCF’s assistance to additional organizations.

**f. VA-DOD Clinic**

Col. Ford noted that the Clinic still does not have a pharmacy, though there is movement towards getting one.

**g. Military & Veterans Affairs Office (“MVAO”) – Monthly Report**

No report.

**h. Calendar of Events**

Mr. Metz reported the Drones Automation & Robotics Technologies (“DART”) DroneCamp and Symposium will be held at CSUMB June 22-26, 2020. Visit [www.montereybaydart.org](http://www.montereybaydart.org) for more details.

**7. ITEMS FROM MEMBERS**

Mr. Cliff Guinn announced that he’s collecting military artifacts for a future Ford Ord museum and wanted to know what is going to happen with FORA artifacts post-sunset. Mr. Oglesby asked Mr. Guinn to bring a formal request in writing to the VIAC committee for the artifacts.

Mr. Bogan noted that there was a transfer of land for a museum with no cost, from the Dept of Interior.

Mr. Oglesby asked that members of the committee should each write their own letters to the FORA Board requesting the Board to consider providing funding to the veterans community.

Mr. Metz noted that former FORA employee Robert Norris was honored by the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans. The VIAC had a round of applause for Mr. Norris.

**8. ADJOURNMENT** at 3:48 p.m.

Minutes Prepared by:  
Harrison Tregenza  
Administrative Coordinator