



Veterans' Affairs Committee

Wednesday, April 11, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.
City Manager's Conference Room – 1st Floor
City Hall, 255 W. Alameda, Tucson, Arizona

Legal Action Report and Summary Minutes

Approved: May 9, 2018

1. Call to Order/Establish a Quorum

Meeting called to order by Chairman, Bruce Hamilton at 6:00 p.m. Those present and absent were:

Present:

Gary Ochoa
Carol Rundell

William Burks
C.W. Hall
Henry Johnson
John L. Grand
Ed Torres
Murray Baker
Bruce Hamilton, Chairman
Martin Belden
Melvin Morgan

Representing:

Arizona Department of Veterans Services
Disabled American Veterans Auxillary
Chapter 2
Disabled American Veterans Chapter #26
Disabled American Veterans Chapter 4
Marine Corps League, Marana Nighthawk
Military Order of the Purple Heart
Missing in America Project
Tucson Jewish War Veterans Post 201
Tucson Veterans Serving Veterans
Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 106
Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 106

Absent:

David Thomas
Phyllis Russell
Lester Craig
William Wojciechowski

Luke Johnson
Joel Stoltz

Disabled American Veterans Chapter 18
Esperanza En Escalante
Korean War and Korea Service Veterans
Military Officers Association of America,
Tucson Chapter
Southern Arizona VA Health Care System
Tucson Jewish War Veterans Post 201

Staff Member Present:

Delma Sanchez
Zach McGovern

City Clerk's Office, Recording Secretary
City Clerk's Office, Recording Secretary

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Invocation

The invocation was given by Committee Member M. Baker

4. Introduction of Guests

Jonathan Rothschild, City of Tucson Mayor
Shaun Pfund, M.I.A.P. Southern Arizona
Suzanne Mesich, City Clerk's Office
Ana Marrufo, City Clerk's Office
Lisette Eckman, Veteran's Day Parade

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Terry Bryon, Former VAC Board Member, Nighthawk 72

5. Hats Off to Heroes': Mayor Jonathan Rothschild will discuss the event and possible ways the Committee can better serve the community

Mayor Rothschild stated the event has been held for the past three years and he felt the attendance was good and there was more participation. He said fundraising was a major part for this event. He asked the committee to think about whether they would want to continue to hold this event or have the money go towards the needs for Veterans. He said needs for Veterans were housing, mental health and job fairs. A discussion was held. No formal action was taken.

6. Four Chaplains Memorial Ceremony Update/Possible Fundraising/Discussion

Suzanne Mesich, Assistant City Clerk spoke regarding donations made to the committee. She said they would be submitting an ordinance before Mayor and Council for approval in allowing the committee to accept donations and maintain their own bank account to be used in support of activities, such as Four Chaplains Memorial Ceremony, Operation Exodus and other veterans' causes. Ms. Mesich informed the committee that such monies were not allowed to pass through the City Clerk's office and would need to go directly to the treasurer or a third party fiscal agent in handling the funds.

A discussion was held. No formal action was taken.

7. Operation Exodus Update/Possible Fundraising/Discussion

Discussion was included with Item 6.

8. Veteran's Parade Discussion: Guest Lisette Eckman

Lisette Eckman gave a brief report for the upcoming Veteran's Day Parade. She said it would be held on November 12, 2018. A discussion was held. No formal action was taken.

9. Approval of Legal Action Report and Summary Minutes from March 14, 2018

It was moved by Committee Member C. W. Hall, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 11 to 0 (Committee Members L. Craig, L. Johnson, P. Russell, J. Stoltz, D. Thomas and W. Wojciechowski absent), to approve the Legal Action Report and Summary Minutes from the March 14, 2018 meeting.

10. Treasurer's Report

Report was given by Committee Member M. Belden, and the financial report was distributed. It was moved by Committee Member E. Torres, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 11 to 0 (Committee Members L. Craig, L. Johnson, P. Russell, J. Stoltz, D. Thomas and W. Wojciechowski absent), to accept the Financial Report.

11. Consideration/Approval of Members

There were none.

12. Committee Reports

a. Southern Arizona VA Health Care System

No report given.

b. Tucson Veterans Cemetery

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An update was provided by Guest Shaun Pfund about the Marana Cemetery. He stated he was looking at being appointed to the committee. No formal action was taken.

c. Arizona Department of Veterans' Service

Report was given by Committee Member G. Ochoa. No formal action was taken.

13. Military Liaison Office Update

No report was given.

14. Discussion regarding Hats Off to Heroes

Chairman B. Hamilton asked the committee members their thoughts on continuing to hold the annual event. A discussion involved on whether to continue to have the event and the costs to have the event; long hours; event venue; and shorter hours for the event. The consensus seemed to possible not hold the event and support other organizations and events.

15. Discussion regarding addressing issues facing the local veterans' population

Chairman B. Hamilton opened this up to the committee. He felt some of the issues were definitely lack of housing, homelessness, lack of employment and health care. A discussion was held. No formal action was taken.

16. Discussion on VAC Mission Statement

Committee Member C. Rundell provided three different mission statements to the committee. A discussion was held. No formal action was taken.

17. Discussion regarding Summer Recess (June, July & August)

It was moved by Committee Member C. W. Hall, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 11 to 0 (Committee Members L. Craig, L. Johnson, P. Russell, J. Stoltz, D. Thomas and W. Wojciechowski absent), to approve the months of June, July, and August as summer recess months.

18. Report on Current Events: For the Good of the Order

Reports regarding various upcoming events were provided by Committee Members E. Torres, H. Johnson, J. Grand, M. Baker, C. Rundell, M. Morgan, M. Belden and Chair B. Hamilton. Handouts were distributed. No formal action was taken.

19. Future Agenda Items:

- Consideration/Approval of Members
- Four Chaplains Memorial Ceremony
- Operation Exodus
- Veteran's Parade
- VAC Mission Statement
- Hats Off to Heroes

20. Salute to Colors

21. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.