



Veterans' Affairs Committee  
Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at 6:00 pm  
City Manager's Conference Room – 1st Floor  
City Hall, 255 W. Alameda, Tucson, Arizona

**Legal Action Report and Summary Minutes**  
**\*REVISED**

**1. Call to Order / Establish a Quorum**

Meeting called to order by Senior Vice Chairperson Luke Johnson at 6:00 p.m. Those present and absent were:

**Present:**

Carol Rundell  
  
William Burks  
Kevin Dumas  
Terry Byron  
Henry Johnson

Luke Johnson  
Joel Stoltz  
Mark Levine  
Shaun Pfund

Martin Belden  
Melvin Morgan

Peter Kane (**Advisory Member**)

**Absent:**

Gary Ochoa  
C.W. Hall  
Phyllis Russell  
William Wojciechowski

Robert "Bob" Slocum  
Bruce Hamilton

**Representing:**

Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary,  
Cactus Chapter 2  
Disabled American Veterans Chapter 26  
Disabled American Veterans Chapter 28  
Marine Corps League, Marana Night Hawk 72  
Marine Corps League, Marana Night Hawk 72  
*and* Post 81 Scottish American Military Society  
of Southern Arizona

Southern Arizona VA Health Care System  
Tucson Jewish War Veterans Post 201  
Tucson Jewish War Veterans Post 201  
Tucson Veterans Cemetery Group

**[arrived 6:15 pm]**

Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 106  
Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 106

Tucson Airport Authority

**Representing:**

Arizona Department of Veteran's Services  
Disabled American Veterans Chapter 4  
Esperanza En Escalante  
Military Officers Association of America,  
Tucson Chapter  
Military Order of the Purple Heart  
Tucson Veterans Serving Veterans

**Staff Member Present:**

Jaime Corrales

City Clerk's Office, Recording Secretary

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

**3. Invocation**

The invocation was given by Committee Henry Johnson.

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**4. Introduction of Guests**

Chaplain John Zinck  
Marlon Ruiz

Four Chaplains Ceremony  
Military Order of World Wars, Region XIII

**5. Approval of Legal Action Report and Summary Minutes from May 8, 2019 meeting**

No discussion was held. It was moved by Committee Member W. Burks, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 10 to 0 (Committee Members Gary Ochoa, C.W. Hall, P. Russell, W. Wojciechowski, R. Slocum, B. Hamilton and Shaun Pfund absent), to approve the Legal Action Report and Summary Minutes from the November 13, 2019 meeting.

**\*6. Treasurer's Report**

Report was given by Committee Member M. Belden, and the financial report was distributed. A discussion was held. It was moved by Committee Member H. Johnson, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 10 to 0 (Committee Members Gary Ochoa, C.W. Hall, P. Russell, W. Wojciechowski, R. Slocum, B. Hamilton and Shaun Pfund absent), to accept the November 2019 Financial Report.

**6. Consideration/Approval of Members**

No discussion was held. It was moved by Committee Member M. Belden, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 10 to 0 (Committee Members Gary Ochoa, C.W. Hall, P. Russell, W. Wojciechowski, R. Slocum, B. Hamilton and Shaun Pfund absent), to approve the reappointment of Melvin "Butch" Morgan, as recommended by Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc., Tucson Chapter 106.

**7. Committee Reports**

**a. Southern Arizona VA (Veterans' Affairs) Health Care System**

Committee Member Luke Johnson informed the committee of the Tucson Garden Railway Society Holiday Train Display. Model trains will run on December 23, 26 and 27, 2019, from 8:30 to 4:00 at the VA Hospital Auditorium [Building 4]. He also stated that there was still no word on the new director for the Southern Arizona VA Health Care System. He stated he would notify the VAC once a director was appointed.

**b. Tucson Veterans Cemetery**

Committee Member T. Byron spoke about Wreaths Across America this coming Saturday [December 14, 2019]. She also informed the Committee that there were 3 metal benches, still needing funding, in addition there are also 25 chairs available. Benches are \$1500.00 each and Chairs are \$25.00 each. She also stated that there will be a new cemetery director. Nicole Contreras should tentatively start January 1, 2020.

**c. Arizona Department of Veterans' Services**

No report was given.

**8. Four Chaplains Memorial Ceremony Update/Discussion**

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Chaplain Zinck informed the Committee on the event plans. He hopes to be able to spread the word of the Four Chaplains Ceremony to boost attendance. It was discussed as to who would emcee the event. No decision was reached. Discussion on the fliers/programs was also held. Fliers are being designed, and will be made available once completed. Chaplain Zinck also asked if arrangements had been made to include Mayor Romero in the ceremony. Committee Member C. Rundell stated that she had the letter and proclamation drafted, and would reach out to Mayor Romero's office.

**9. Military Lounge Update/Discussion**

Peter Kane informed the VAC that the remodeling of the Military Lounge is complete, and open to all Military Personnel passing through TIA. He also informed the Committee that Culligan water services had been eliminated.

**10. Operation Exodus Update/Discussion**

Peter Kane informed the committee that Operation Exodus was underway, and the need for volunteers for January 1 and 2, 2020 was still an issue. Committee Member T. Byron stated that a shopping list was sent to Costco and the 40 cases donated by Kalil Bottling would be used for Exodus. Committee Member Belden stated that both the Costco and Kalil orders will be picked up on December 12, 2019.

**12. Report on Current Events: For the Good of the Order**

Reports regarding various upcoming events were provided by Committee Members J. Stolz, K. Dumas, H. Johnson, S. Pfund, T. Byron, M. Morgan, and M. Belden, and Advisory Member Peter Kane

**13. Election of Officers**

No discussion was held. It was moved by Committee Member H. Johnson, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 11 to 0 (Committee Members Gary Ochoa, C.W. Hall, P. Russell, W. Wojciechowski, R. Slocum, and B. Hamilton absent), to re-elect Committee Member B. Hamilton as Chair, Committee Member L. Johnson as Senior Vice Chair, Committee Member G. Ochoa as Junior Vice Chair, Committee Member M. Belden as Treasurer and Committee Member C.W. Hall as Judge Advocate.

**14. Chairs Appointments for 2020**

No formal action taken. Will add to future agenda items for January 2020 VAC meeting.

**15. Future Agenda Items:**

Committee Member C. Rundell stated that she would reach out to the Mayor's staff and arrange for Four Chaplains Proclamation to be signed. In addition, she will arrange an invitation to the January VAC meeting and Four Chaplains Ceremony.

**16. Salute to Colors**

**17. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm