



**City of Milpitas
Veterans Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 4, 2021
5:30 p.m.**

**Via Teleconference
Milpitas, CA 95035**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Ramos called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. **FLAG SALUTE:** Chair Ramos led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **ROLL CALL**
Present: Lilliana Ramos, Darl Travis, William (Bill) Devereux, Reynaldo Lingad, Victorino Monzon, Bruce Choy, Rocky Lallana, Puneet Sandhu

Excused Absence: None

Late Attendance: None

Unexcused Absence: None

City Staff Present: Community Services Engagement and Inclusion Administrator Tegan McLane, Recreation Supervisor Rosana Cacao and Staff Liaison Lisa Ciardella

Elected Officials Present: Mayor Rich Tran

4. **SEATING OF ALTERNATES:** None
5. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA: August 4, 2021**
M/S: Choy / Travis AYES: All
6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES: June 2, 2021**
M/S: Devereux / Choy AYES: All
7. **PUBLIC FORUM**
None
8. **ANNOUNCEMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE**
Chair Ramos announced that the meeting would be adjourned in memory of former Veterans Commission Staff Liaison Dale Flunoy who had recently passed away.

Alternate No. 2 Puneet Sandhu introduced herself to the Commission. In turn, all Commissioners have introduced themselves to new Commission member Sandhu.

9. **BUSINESS ITEMS**

a. **Veterans Day Ceremony 2021**

To facilitate discussions, Recreation and Community Services Assistant Director / Community Services Engagement & Inclusion Administrator Tegan McLane briefed the Commission regarding the following:

- Highlights of the 2019 and 2020 Veterans Day Ceremonies
- The City's plan to hold the 2021 Veterans Day Ceremony in-person
- What other cities have done in recent years to commemorate Veterans Day.

Commissioner Monzon suggested to commemorate the withdrawal of United States troops after the now 20-year war in Afghanistan. Commissioner Monzon also suggested to utilize Mayor Tran as a resource in recommending a keynote speaker for the event. Mayor Tran agreed to work with the Commission regarding this effort.

Consensus was made for the Commission to form a three-person subcommittee to take leadership in offering suggestions and planning the event. Commissioner Lallana, Alternate Member Sandhu, and Vice Chair Devereux volunteered to be part of the three-member subcommittee.

Motion to form a three-person subcommittee for the Veterans Day Ceremony 2021.

M/S: Devereux / Monzon

AYES: All

b. **Veterans Annual Luncheon**

The Commission discussed matters regarding the luncheon including but not limited to outreach / extending invitations, securing keynote speaker, vendor(s) for the food, the possibility that the event might get cancelled if there is a COVID-19 / Delta variant surge in September or October 2021, formation of a subcommittee and other topics.

Commissioner Choy, Commissioner Lallana, and Alternate Member Sandhu volunteered to become subcommittee members for the luncheon.

Motion to form a three-person subcommittee for the Veterans Annual Luncheon 2021.

M/S: Devereux / Choy

AYES: All

c. **Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (NJROTC)**

The Commission discussed on how to involve the NJROTC in Commission activities and provide non-monetary support to the NJROTC. Chair Ramos shared that in the past, the NJROTC was involved in Commission activities.

Commissioner Monzon volunteered to speak with the NJROTC's commander-in-charge to explore ways on how the NJROTC and the Commission can better interface.

Recreation Supervisor Cacao advised the Commission members to attend the board meetings and show support as Milpitas residents while identifying themselves as Veterans Commission members.

d. Adopt-A-Vet Program

The Commission discussed about re-activating the Adopt-A-Vet Program.

Staff Liaison Ciardella suggested for the Commission to form a subcommittee.

Consensus was made for the Commission to continue discussions.

10. LIAISON REPORTS

1. City Council Report

None.

2. Staff Report

Staff Liaison Ciardella updated the Commission that the City was wrapping up its successful summer program. The City provided summer programs and services that the City has provided during the summer including but not limited to day camp, contracts classes, and aquatics.

Staff Liaison Ciardella reported that the City was preparing for its recreation services for Fall 2021 and during the holidays which include but would not be limited to After-the-Bell, LIFE Program, Pumpkins in the Park, Holiday Magic on Main Street, Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony, and Milk and Cookies with Santa.

Staff Liaison Ciardella also shared that there would be an annual vaccine clinic on August 5, 2021 at the Milpitas Sports Center from noon until 7:00 PM. The clinic would be free and no appointments necessary.

11. ADJOURNMENT – Chair Ramos adjourned the meeting at 6:21 p.m.

12. FUTURE AGENDA ITEM

- Veterans Memorial Bricks

13. NEXT MEETING

- Regular (Virtual) Meeting – Wednesday, October 6, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

*Draft Minutes respectfully submitted by:
Pam Caronongan, Recording Secretary*