City of Milpitas
Veterans Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 6, 2018
5:30 p.m.

Milpitas City Hall Committee Room
455 E. Calaveras Blvd.
Milpitas, CA 95035

I. CALL TO ORDER: Chair Ebright called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

II. FLAG SALUTE: Chair Ebright led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

Present: Edward Smythe, William (Bill) Devereux, Arthur Ebright, Ed Ackerman, Liliana Ramos, John Schmidt, and Ricardo Martinez

Excused Absence: Denny Weisgerber

Late Attendance: None

Unexcused Absence: None

City Staff Present: Staff Liaison Dale Flunoy and Recording Secretary Pam Caronongan

Elected Officials Present: None

IV. SEATING OF ALTERNATES: Ricardo Martinez and John Schmidt were seated as voting members.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: June 6, 2018

M/S: Ramos / Devereux AYES: All

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

For April 4, 2018

M/S: Ramos / Devereux AYES: All

For May 23, 2018 – Special Meeting

Minutes approved with modifications specified by the Commission to staff

M/S: Ramos / Devereux AYES: All

VII. PUBLIC FORUM

None

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE

Staff Liaison Flunoy welcomed newly-appointed Commissioner Edward Smythe. Staff Liaison Flunoy also shared with the Commission the resignation of former Commissioner Andre Ramones, and the City Clerk posting the corresponding 20-day required Notice of Vacancy.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

1. Veterans Gala

Alternate Member Schmidt reported to the Commission that the Subcommittee recently met, and have discussed and were proposing the following:

- The Veterans Gala to be held on May 11, 2019, in order to have no scheduling conflicts with other fundraising endeavors by other organizations

- Anticipated expense would from $14,000 to $18,000. Anticipated gross sales is approximately $30,000, given a scenario of $125.00 per seat multiplied by 240 seats. Anticipated gross profit is $12,000, of which $10,000 would be divided and awarded as scholarships.

- The Commission would begin accepting scholarship applications in January 2019, and would close the process on April 15, 2019. This would give the Commission enough time to select the scholarship recipients.

- The Commission would include one or two City officials such as the Chief of Police and the Fire Chief as part of the scholarship committee to review the applications and select the scholarship awardees.

- The Subcommittee to be approved to work with a preliminary budget of $14,000 - $8,000 for food, $4,000 for live band, $1,000 for decorations, and $1,000 for mailing and advertising.

Chair Ebright commented that the Commission needed to consider the upcoming Veterans Luncheon, in which funds would be needed to financially cover the event. After discussions were made, Staff Liaison Flunoy advised the Commissioners that the Commission needs to appear before City Council and formally request for additional funds which could be used to pay for the Veterans Luncheon.

Consensus was made regarding the importance of selling every available Gala seat to maximize profits. Discussions were made regarding how the Commission's award of a scholarship might affect the scholarship awardees' eligibility for other scholarships such as CalVet. Staff Liaison Flunoy advised the Commission that it would be best to plan and carry out the Veterans Gala first, and then work on the nuances of the scholarship awards after the Gala.

Discussions were further made regarding the Gala, and would be continued in the Commission's subsequent meetings.

Motion: for the Commission to approve the Subcommittee's preliminary budget request for the Veterans Gala.

M/S: Ramos / Schmidt AYES: All

X. NEW BUSINESS

1. Veteran of the Year

Discussions were made the Veteran of the Year nomination forms as well as applications. Staff Liaison Flunoy clarified with the Commission that the veterans' database would be used to conduct outreach in efforts to get more applications and nominations. The Commissioners agreed to divide up the veterans' database list in order to facilitate outreach efforts. Other outreach effort opportunities have been discussed such as July 4th as well as other City-sponsored events, as well as regular face-to-face meeting with fellow veterans in daily settings such as the grocery stores, parks, and other venues.

Consensus was made to continue discussions in subsequent Commission meetings leading to the event.

2. Veterans Annual Luncheon

Discussion was made, culminating in the proposal for Chair Ebright and Commissioner Devereux to appear before the City Council during the City Council Meeting's Public Forum and request to agendize the Commission's request to ask for $2,000 to enable the Commission to host the Veterans Annual Luncheon.

Motion: for the Commission to direct staff to check the availability of the Senior Center and the Rotunda to hold the Veterans Annual Luncheon for November 3, November 11, and November 17.

M/S: Ackerman / Ramos AYES: All

3. Hot August Bites

The Commission discussed the possibility of hosting a mini-version of the Car Show during Hot August Bites. Consensus was made regarding the trophies, the registration form, and other logistics. Maximum entrants would be between 20 to 30 participants, with a registration fee of $30.00 per entrant.

Consensus was made for "public ballots" to be used to facilitate the voting process. The Commission would be counting the ballots, tallying the votes, and announcing the winners.

Motion: for the Commission to direct staff to update all forms and information as it relates to the mini-version of Car Show sponsored by the Commission during Hot August Bites on August 25, 2018. Final review and approval would be given by the Commission Chair and Vice-Chair; and for staff, in turn, would mail out the information.

M/S: Ackerman / Ramos AYES: All

Motion: for the Commission to have the general public attendees be the judges for the mini-version of the Car Show during Hot August Bites.

M/S: Ackerman / Smythe AYES: All

Motion: for the Commission to host a mini-version of the Car Show during Hot August Bites on August 25, 2018.

M/S: Schmidt / Smythe AYES: All

Motion: for the Commission utilize a "public ballot" method for determining the winners. The attendees would be the judges, as done in a previous motion.

M/S: Ackerman / Ramos AYES: All

XI. LIAISON REPORTS

a. City Council Report
None

b. Staff Report
None

XII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Adopt-A-Vet
- Brainstorm on projects that directly benefit Milpitas veterans

XIII. NEXT MEETING

- Regular Meeting – Wednesday, August 1, 2018, at 5:30 p.m.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT – Chair Ebright adjourned the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

Draft Minutes respectfully submitted by:
Pam Caronongan, Deputy City Clerk