



**City of Milpitas
Veterans Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 7, 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: Denny Weisgerber, William (Bill) Devereux, Arthur Ebright, Ed Ackerman, Liliana Ramos, John Schmidt

Excused Absence: Andre Ramones, Ricardo Martinez

Late Attendance: None

Unexcused Absence: None

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

Elected Officials Present: Mayor Tran (as Council Liaison to the Commission) and Councilmember Bob Nuñez (as an observer and member of the public)
- IV. **SEATING OF ALTERNATES:** John Schmidt was seated as a voting member.
- V. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA: FEBRUARY 7, 2018**
M/S: Weisgerber / Ackerman AYES: All
- VI. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
Minutes were approved as modified.

DECEMBER 6, 2017
M/S: Weisgerber / Devereux AYES: All
- VII. **PUBLIC FORUM**
None
- VIII. **ANNOUNCEMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE**
None

IX. NEW BUSINESS

1. Election of Officers

Chair Ebright was re-elected as Commission Chair. Commissioner Ackerman was elected as Vice-Chair.

2. Discuss 2018 Work Plan

Staff Liaison Flunoy advised the Commissioners to make the work plan and its goals realistic. The Commissioners, with Staff Liaison Flunoy's guidance, reviewed and discussed the work plan.

Consensus was reached that Item No. 10– Flag Sale Fundraiser – would be removed from the draft work plan.

Alternate Member Schmidt proposed for the Commission to create a Milpitas Veterans Commission Scholarship Fund, which would be funded via the proceeds from the gala dinner. The Commission discussed and was interested with the proposal, with Commissioners making further suggestions. Staff Liaison Flunoy advised the Commission to add this item to the 2018 draft work plan, and then for the Commission to form a subcommittee once City Council approves said work plan.

Consensus was made to continue discussions regarding the work plan.

Motion: for the Commission to approve its 2018 Draft Work Plan with revisions to add the Milpitas Veterans Commission Scholarship Fund and remove the Flag Sale Fundraiser (listed as Item 10).

M/S: Weisgerber / Ackerman

AYES: All

3. Memorial Day Ceremony 2018

Vice-Chair Ackerman shared with the Commission that the Commission received a letter from Captain Lou Horyza. In the letter, Captain Horyza enumerated a list of Milpitas veterans who were killed in action.

Vice-Chair Ackerman drafted a response letter for Captain Horyza which he shared with the Commission.

Motion: for the Commission to approve a letter composed by Vice-Chair Ackerman for Captain Horyza to be sent out on behalf of the Commission.

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M/S: Weisgerber / Ebright

AYES: All

Further discussions and suggestions were made regarding this year's ceremony. Staff Liaison Flunoy suggested for the Commission to coordinate with staff in terms of logistics and other components that need to be planned and ironed out for this year's ceremony.

Consensus was made for the Commission to create a subcommittee for the event. The subcommittee has been instructed by the Commission to report back at the Commission's next meeting in April 2018.

Motion: for the Commission to form a subcommittee for Memorial Day Ceremony 2018. Subcommittee members will be Vice-Chair Ackerman, Commission Weisgerber, and Commissioner Devereux. The subcommittee and Staff have been instructed by the Commission to start the search for this year's ceremony keynote speaker.

M/S: Weisgerber / Ramos

AYES: All

X. OLD BUSINESS

1. Veterans Commission Fundraising

The subcommittee, with Alternate Member Schmidt taking the lead, reported back to the Commission regarding their research, findings, and proposals for a black-tie gala dinner fundraiser should the Commission choose to go that route. After discussing the pros and cons, the subcommittee recommended to the Commission to move forward with hosting a black-tie gala dinner.

Discussions were made regarding event logistics, sponsorship, and possible dates to hold the event.

Per the recommendation of Commissioner Weisgerber, consensus was made to hold the event on Saturday, October 13, 2018, with the Commission instructing the subcommittee and staff to work together in planning the event.

Motion: for the Commission to host its first Veterans Commission black-tie gala dinner on Saturday, October 13, 2018.

M/S: Ackerman / Weisgerber

AYES: All

XI. LIAISON REPORTS

a. City Council Report

Mayor Tran asked for an update regarding waiving sports center fees for Milpitas veterans. Staff Liaison Flunoy replied that the Finance Subcommittee will discuss this topic in its February 14, 2018 meeting.

b. Staff Report

Staff Liaison Flunoy informed the Commission regarding the City's first Lunar New Year Celebration on February 8, 2018 from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM. Staff Liaison Flunoy then opened the floor for Councilmember Nuñez.

Councilmember Nuñez shared with the Commission that he, as a member of the City Council Commission Subcommittee, attended the Veterans Commission meeting to observe and be more familiar with all of the City's commissions. Councilmember Nuñez thanked the Commission and complimented the Commissioners for being active and engaging.

XII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Veteran of the Year
- Adopt-A-Vet

XIII. NEXT MEETING

- Regular Meeting – Wednesday, April 4, 2018, at 5:30 p.m.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT – Chair Ebright adjourned the meeting at 6:37 p.m.

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