



**City of Milpitas
Veterans Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 1, 2023
5:30 p.m.**

**Barbara Lee Senior Center
Milpitas, CA 95035**

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

Absence: Victorino Monzon

Late Attendance: None

City Staff Present: Staff Liaison Lisa Mendes, Recording Secretary Ruby General, Recreation Supervisor Joshua Clevenger

Elected Officials Present: Mayor
4. **SEATING OF ALTERNATES:** None
5. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA: FEBRUARY 1, 2023**
M/S: Devereux/Ramos AYES: All
6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES: October 5, 2022**
M/S: Ramos/Choy AYES: All
7. **PUBLIC FORUM**
Robert Jeung, Milpitas – Hope for the Unhoused. Volunteer drive. Looking for volunteers available Monday or Friday around Noon for 90 minutes. Drive and distribute food to unhoused in Milpitas.
8. **ANNOUNCEMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE**
Commissioner Bruce Choy – provided flyer “Calling All Vietnam Era, Gulf War Era, and Post-9/11 Veterans. Inviting everyone to attend presentation regarding PACT Act.

Chair Bill Devereux – PAMF/Sutter Health is not accepting new patients under original Medicare but will accept Medicare Advantage patients under most Medicare Advantage programs that they accept. Those who are patients of PAMF/Sutter Health and who see their General Practitioner every three years may enroll in original Medicare.

Vice Chair Liliana Ramos – Invitation to Four Chaplins ceremony – first Saturday of February. Share information on how HOPE helps Milpitas residents. HOPE will start a Veterans support group on February 15 at 4 p.m. at Barbara Lee Senior Center.

9. **BUSINESS ITEMS**

a. **Election of Officers 2023**

Nominations for Chair: Commissioner Choy nominates Liliana Ramos

Motion to nominate Liliana Ramos to Chair.

M/S: Choy/Sandhu

AYES: ALL

Nominations for Vice Chair: Commissioner Reynaldo Lingad nominates Puneet Sandhu.

Motion to nominate Puneet Sandhu to Vice Chair.

M/S: Lingad/Devereux

AYES: ALL

b. **Veterans Outreach**

Liaison Lisa Mendes shares information on Constant Contact database. Collected names at Veterans Day Ceremony. Public Robert Jung shares information on how to reach out to veterans in the Hope for Unhoused. Vice Chair Sandhu recommends partnering with Hope for Unhoused to hand out flyers to collect veterans' information. Staff Josh Clevenger recommends moving the conversation about helping the unhoused veterans to HOPE. Chair Ramos suggests creating a separate email list for "Friends of Veterans." Vice Chair Puneet Sandhu recommends adding language to the water bill. Staff Josh Clevenger recommends a business card handout with a QR code to join the email list. Veterans table on July 4th. Use social media to invite people to join the email list.

Motion to QR code to the utility bill, marketing request for business cards, QR code for social media and website, and tables at events. Lisa will research the flyer for the schools.

M/S: Sandhu/Ramos

AYES: ALL

c. **Veterans Day Ceremony and Veterans Resource Fair/Luncheon**

Vice Chair Sandhu suggests the resource fair doesn't need to be that long before lunch. Too long. Hard to give the goodie bags to Veterans because seniors were taking them instead of Veterans. Devereux recommends having it at Community Center. Not well attended.

Chair Ramos to recognize Cold War Veterans.

Devereux liked bringing awards to recipients because it saved time. No raffle tickets for Commissioners and their families. Only Veterans get a raffle ticket.

It wasn't marketed well.

10. LIAISON REPORTS

1. City Council Report

None

2. Staff Report

Staff Liaison Lisa Ciardella – Mayor Montano is City Council Liaison

Ask commission to start looking for Memorial Day speaker

Bricks – working with Public Works manager. Waiting for Public Works approval.

Upcoming Event:

Holi Festival – March 4, 2023

Earth Day – April 22, 2023

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Veterans Brick

Memorial Day Ceremony

Veterans Lunch Date and Location

12. ADJOURNMENT – Chair Ramos adjourned the meeting at 6:37 p.m.

13. NEXT MEETING

- Regular Meeting – Wednesday, April 5, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

Draft Minutes respectfully submitted by:
Ruby General, Recording Secretary