



**City of Milpitas
Veterans Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 7, 2024
5:30 p.m.**

**Barbara Lee Senior Center
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**
Commissioners Present: Liliana Ramos, William Devereux, Reynaldo Lingad, Puneet Sandhu, Bruce Choy, Leo Garcia.

Commissioners Absent: Victorino Monzon, Rich Tran, Diego Hammett

City Staff Present: Director of Recreation and Community Services Renee Lorenzen, Program Coordinator Danny Clark, Public Services Assistant Ming Chen

City Council Liaison Present: Mayor Carmen Montano

4. **SEATING OF ALTERNATES:**
Commissioner Garcia was seated for Commissioner Monzon.

5. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA: February 7, 2024**
M/S: Garcia/Devereux AYES: All

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES: December 6, 2023**
M/S: Garcia/Devereux AYES: All
Abstain: Choy, Lingad, Leo

7. **PUBLIC FORUM**
No members from the public were in attendance.

8. **ANNOUNCEMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE**

Chair Ramos announced the Veterans Claims Clinic, hosted by the American Legion 837, will be on Saturday, March 2, 2024, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Fremont Memorial Hall, where Veterans can get assistance for VSO services.

BUSINESS ITEMS

a. Chair and Vice Chair Elections

Chair Ramos nominated Puneet Sandhu for Chair.

M/S: Ramos/Choy Ayes: All

Commissioner Lingad nominates William Devereux for Vice Chair.

M/S: Lingad/Ramos Ayes: All

b. Veterans Affairs and Suicide Prevention Presentation

LaShelle Burch presented to the Commission and shared with the Commission of Milpitas updates on various engagement and supportive services for veterans, and the public model for suicide prevention.

c. Memorial Day Ceremony 2024

Staff Clark and Commission discussed the programming for the upcoming Memorial Day ceremony, with the following suggestions having consensus:

- Holding a ceremony rehearsal a few days before the event
- Incorporate the folding of the flag in the ceremony
- Connecting with the Ladies Guild for paper poppies to distribute
- Securing a keynote speaker (Commission)

d. Veterans Commission Holding Account and Future Work Plan Discussion

Commission received the presentation and discussed the procedure on how to request usage of funds. The Commission requested Recreation and Community Services Director, Renee Lorentzen, return to a future meeting to discuss marketing and outreach as it relates to their future work plan(s).

e. Veterans Recognition Luncheon

Commission suggested looking at available dates in July at the Jose Higuera Adobe building for this year's Veterans Recognition Luncheon. A Subcommittee consisting of Vice Chair Devereux, Commissioners Garcia and Ramos has volunteered to work with staff on initial luncheon preparations.

9. CITY LIAISON REPORTS

a. Report from Staff

City Staff shared upcoming City special events and the Commissioners' Recognition event at the end of April.

b. Report from Council Liaison

Mayor Montano gave an update of the CDBG grants to the commission.

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Continue discussion on the holding account and work plan

11. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Puneet adjourned the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

*Draft Minutes respectfully submitted by:
Ming Chen, Recording Secretary*