



**City of Milpitas
Veterans Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 6, 2022
5:30 p.m.**

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, Puneet Sandhu, and Victorino Monzon.

Excused Absence: Reynaldo Lingad, Mayor Rich Tran.

Late Attendance: None

Unexcused Absence: None

City Staff Present: Recreation Supervisor Joshua Clevenger, Staff Liaison Lisa Ciardella, Recording Secretary Vince Collantes

Elected Officials Present: None
4. **SEATING OF ALTERNATES:** Alternate member Lingad was seated.
5. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** April 6, 2022
M/S: Monzon/Ramos AYES: All
6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** February 2, 2022
M/S: Ramos/Devereux AYES: All
7. **PUBLIC FORUM**
Debbie Trudano, on behalf of the Rotary Club of Milpitas, promoted the Heroes Golf Tournament at Bay View Golf Course on May 7.
8. **ANNOUNCEMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE**
N/A

9. **BUSINESS ITEMS**

a. **Memorial Day Ceremony 2022**

Staff Liaison Lisa Ciardella discussed what will happen at this year's Memorial Day Ceremony. She has found an honor guard and someone to play Taps. She needs suggestions from the commission for a speaker.

Recreation Supervisor Joshua Clevenger provided an update on the budget for the event and that Milpitas Community Concert Band will perform. Joshua also suggested a speaker he knows from the Navy.

b. **Veterans Annual Luncheon 2022**

Vice Chair Ramos, along with Commissioners Monzon and Choy, recommended to move event to November 12, 2022. They proposed the topic of benefits for veterans with a speaker from the Veterans Office from Santa Clara. They also proposed the VA bring resources and pamphlets to Luncheon.

Chair Devereux suggested making a packet to give once veterans arrive.

Commissioner Choy discussed Veteran's Administration benefits how to disseminate information efficiently and properly during the luncheon.

Motion to move Veteran Annual Luncheon to November 12, 2022.

M/S: Ramos/Devereux

AYES: ALL

c. **Veterans Commission Work Plan 2022**

The Commission discussed modifications and wants for items they would like to see to the 2022-2023 Work Plan. Supervisor Joshua Clevenger mentioned that the Commission should focus on recruitment and finding veterans within the community. Supervisor Joshua Clevenger and Commissioner Puneet discussed having a dental clinic and health fair this year.

d. **Fundraising**

The Commission discussed fundraising ideas for future events. Supervisor Joshua Clevenger notified the Commission that all fundraising needs to be led by the Commission. If we want to continue the Veteran's Lunch, we need to come up with fundraising ideas. There are enough funds to continue the Veteran's Lunch for 2022 and 2023. Staff Liaison Lisa Ciardella mentioned the Milpitas Charity Bingo Hall may be a good way to raise funds. Commission Puneet mentioned to solicit donations using a donation letter.

e. **Veterans Outreach**

The Commission discussed ways to grow the list of veterans in Milpitas. Supervisor Joshua Clevenger mentioned to move things digitally and adding a QR code on each resident's water bill. He also mentioned for the Veteran's Commission to table at City events and other local events and to talk to local businesses.

f. **Veterans Issues: Homelessness and Suicide Prevention**

Vice Chair Ramos provided an update on homelessness and suicide prevention. She is talking to people who work with veterans which include the VA, VSO, and HOPE Suicide Prevention Taskforce. She has information and phone numbers which will be beneficial to veterans, which she has provided to Staff Liaison Lisa Ciardella. Vice Chair Ramos would like to invite these people to speak to the Commission and to possibly speak at the health fair and dental clinic.

10. LIAISON REPORTS

1. City Council Report

None

2. Staff Report

Lisa Ciardella reported that the City's Summer Activity Guide will be released online on April 18. They also need pictures to update the City's Veterans Commission webpage.

Supervisor Joshua Clevenger reported that we have two upcoming events including Earth Day on April 23 and Memorial Day at 9 a.m. on May 30.

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Veteran of the Year
- Outreach to find new veterans
- Ideas of fundraising
- Speaker from VA on suicide prevention

12. ADJOURNMENT – Chair Devereux adjourned the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

13. NEXT MEETING

- Regular Meeting – Wednesday, June 1, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

Draft Minutes respectfully submitted by:
Vince Collantes, Recording Secretary