



**City of Milpitas
Veterans Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 2, 2023
5:30 p.m.**

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

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Liliana Ramos called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.
2. **FLAG SALUTE:** Chair Liliana Ramos led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **ROLL CALL**
Present: Liliana Ramos, Bruce Choy, William (Bill) Devereux, Reynaldo Lingad Victorino Monzon, Leo Garcia, Richard Tran

Absence: Puneet Sandhu (excused), Leo Garcia (excused)

Late Attendance: Diego Hammett

City Staff Present: Staff Liaison Lisa Mendes

Elected Officials Present: Mayor Carmen Montano
4. **SEATING OF ALTERNATES:**
Richard Tran
5. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA: AUGUST 2, 2023**
M/S: Devereux/Monzon AYES: All
6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES: June 7, 2023**
M/S: Devereux/Lingad AYES: All
7. **PUBLIC FORUM**
None.
8. **ANNOUNCEMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE**
Chair Liliana Ramos –
 - Update on HOPE. Next meeting August 8, 2023
 - Veterans Support Group is growing. All commissioners would like to be added to the groups e-mail list.
 - VA coordinator of outreach would like to come and speak to the commission.
9. **BUSINESS ITEMS**
 - a. **Veterans Day Ceremony – City Staff**

- b. Staff liaison Lisa Mendes, asked for the Commissions help with the ceremony. City staff is looking for a singer for the event, and asked the commission if they have any leads for a singer and speaker. She is open to suggestions. Commissioner Monzon said NJROTC will participate. Light refreshments will be provided. The commission may like to practice ahead of time for the ceremony, and will discuss further at the October meeting.
- c. **Veterans Day Luncheon – City Staff**
The lunch will take place at the Milpitas Community Center, with the resource fair starting at 11:00 a.m. and the lunch at 12:00 p.m. The Commission would like a chance drawing for the Veterans and their guests. Lisa Mendes requested the Commission to find a speaker and vendors for the resource fair.
- d. **Say Hi to a Hero – City Staff**
On the Veterans Commission work plan is “Say Hi to a Hero”. The Commission has tried to contact the schools in MUSD with no luck. Lisa Mendes will provide more information in October as to working with the students that are in the City’s after school program.
- e. **Fundraising Ideas – City Staff**
Staff would like the Commission to discuss fundraising ideas. The commission suggested a talent show, spring sing and a car show. An ad hoc committee of Commissioners Tran, Sandhu and Garcia will be part of the committee.
- f. **Veteran of the Year – City Staff**
The Veteran of the Year application is on the website. Staff would like the Commission to let the public know about the Veteran of the Year, and urge them to make nominations.
- g. **Veterans Outreach - City Staff**
Staff would like the Commissioner to continue to reach out to the community and encourage Veterans to join our list.

10. LIAISON REPORTS

- 1. **City Council Report**
City Manager recruitment is taking place.
- 2. **Staff Report**
 - Retro Milpitas will take place August 4 and 5, 2023.

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Honoring Milpitas Veterans Project
Veterans Car Show
Initiate orientation for new commissioners

12. ADJOURNMENT – Chair Ramos adjourned the meeting at 6:44 p.m.

13. NEXT MEETING

- Regular Meeting – Wednesday, October 4, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

*Draft Minutes respectfully submitted by:
Lisa Mendes, Staff Liaison*