

Minutes for the Meeting of City of Hawthorne
Veterans Affairs Commission
July 29, 2019

Meeting Convened: 3:15 P.M.

- 1) Call to Order
 - ***Commissioner's Present: Lester, Moreno, Robilotta, Steinhauer, Chair Orlemann;***
- 2) Flag Salute, Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3) Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.3, the July 1, 2019 Veterans Affairs Commission Agenda was posted at City Hall, 4455 West 126th St., Hawthorne, CA on July 23, 2019 at 12 noon.
- 4) Oral Communications:
- 5) Written Communications: ***None***
- 6) Approval of Minutes: ***The July 1 meeting minutes were approved, and motioned by Commissioner Steinhauer and seconded by Commissioner Moreno; passed 5-0***
- 7) Commission's Discussion/Action Items
 - Discussion of Hawthorne Veteran Housing related to Council approval of city-owned land
 - i. ***Chair Orlemann opened by welcoming the audience of veteran related individuals. Various attendees, including Tess Banko and Sterling Barbour reinforced their interest and desire to see Hawthorne move forward with the concept of veteran housing on the City owned land. They also provided detailed explanations of the applicability of HUD VASH vouchers and the intent of permanent supportive housing, as a means to help veterans.***
 - ii. ***Dave Weiner, former Long Beach VA police chief, also attended and discussed a concept for longer term options of providing veteran parking as a sheltering method, should the city acquire additional land that could be used for this purpose.***
 - iii. ***Brian D 'Andrea, Senior VP of Century Housing, spoke of the proposal for the designated city land and plans that were made in 2015 for 50 units. He indicated there was collaboration with the church next door. The original design was exclusively for housing on the plot but never went any further. He expressed an interest in Century being involved if the opportunity still exists.***
 - iv. ***The consensus was that the "group" or designated individuals would prepare to present these concepts to the City Council Aug 27 meeting, as a means to express their subject matter knowledge on veteran housing.***
 - Next steps for commission regarding events and activities
 - i. ***At this time the Commission was not planning on specific Veterans Day events involving the commission.***
 - ii. ***The Commission agreed to support Hawthorne's National Night Out on August 6 with a table and handouts***
 - Budget Review and Update

- i. Solicitation update; reconciliation with “Hope is Helping”
 - ***Secretary Gafney remains in frequent contact with Pat Donaldson and the issues with HIH remain unresolved. She offered to extend any payments needed as necessary.***
- ii. City commission non-profit plan –
 - ***Handouts explaining the process for collecting, receipting, and turning in the monies was discussed, although no fund-raising drive is currently planned.***

o Open Business

- i. ***There were no updates on meetings with Chair Orlemann out-of-town attending the VVA bi-annual Convention; Sec. Gafney indicated the CVEB meeting was cancelled.***
- ii. ***Next meetings: Aug 12, and August 26***

8) Adjournment: 4:14 p.m.