

CITY OF HAWTHORNE

VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

Erika Lampkin, Human Resources Director
Jose Saldana, Police Sergeant



4455 W. 126th Street, Hawthorne, CA 90250

Chairperson Faye Johnson
Vice – Chair Stephen Nellman
Commissioner Kyle Orlemann
Commissioner Carol Steinhauer
Commissioner Daniel Lucero

CITY OF HAWTHORNE VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

DATE: August 21, 2023

PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54954.3, THE AGENDA WAS POSTED AT CITY HALL BULLETIN BOARD AT 4455 W 126TH STREET ON THURSDAY, August 17, 2023 AT 4:00PM.

Chairperson Johnson called the Veteran's Commission meeting to order at 4:03 pm.

Roll Call: Five members present

Present: Chairperson Faye Johnson, Commissioners Kyle Orlemann, Carol Steinhauer, Commissioner Daniel Lucero, and Vice Chair Stephen Nellman

Absent: none

Staff Present: Lori Thomas, Human Resources Analyst

- 1) **Oral Communication: None**
- 2) **Written Communications: None**
- 3) **Approval of Minutes** – Meeting of June 5, 2023

Moved to approve by Commissioner Steinhauer; 2nd by Commissioner Johnson with corrections
Yes Votes – Commissioners Johnson, Steinhauer, Orlemann
Abstained - Commissioner Daniel Lucero & Vice Chair Nellman

4) **Secretary's Report**

Lori Thomas, HR Analyst reported the 9/11 banners will be posted on 126th starting from light all the way to the stop sign. The banners will acknowledge all branch of services.
Also, reported the Commission does not have a budget and the Commission would need to raise funds for the Veterans banners. Any fundraiser ideas must be approved by the Commission and then the Chairperson would present the idea to City Council for the final approval.
Chairperson Johnson reported the Commission does not have time to do a fundraiser. The Commission proposed a 50/50 split and/or speaking with the Mayor to find the funds.
The Commission discussed and voted on the eligibility criteria for a banner: 1.) Active Duty, 2.) KIA/POW/MIA, 3.) Veterans, 4.) DD214 with honorable discharge and, 5.) consent to post
Chairperson Johnson will present this eligibility criteria during the next City Council Meeting.

Moved to approve by Commissioner Johnson; 2nd by Commissioner Nellman
Yes Votes – Commissioners Johnson, Steinhauer, Orlemann, Lucero, Chairperson
Johnson and Vice Chair Nellman

5) Commissioners' Discussion/Action Items

- A. Website Review – the website clean-up is coming along nicely. We should continue to bring ideas.
- B. Events/Outreach – Commissioner Lucero move the event date since Frank Rubio is unavailable for the meet and greet. This event has not been named but will be a meet and greet with Frank Rubio. Lori Thomas informed the Commission that she will reserve the Memorial Center, Venus Room on May 16th 3:00-8:00 as the primary date and March 8th as the alternate date from 3:00-8:00. The Commission will also setup a subcommittee.

The Commission then reviewed all the events/outreach in Hawthorne. The objective is for the Commission to get the word out that they exist, create a contact list, and to let resident know about the Veterans banners.

The events/outreach discussed were President Council, State of the City (would like to be added on next year agenda), World Fest at Memorial Park

- C. Legislative Updates -- Vets Homeless advocacy is breaking ground on the West LA Veterans Affairs campus for 374 more units.
- D. Facebook – Lori Thomas reported she would send the Commission the Facebook login information. Human Resources will monitor all post however the Commission will update the page.
- E. LA Air Station memo update
- F. Veterans Banners for poles throughout the City – The Commission is concerned about labor cost. In addition, it was mentioned that we do not have how much space is available to post the VA banner. It was recommended to contact Planning to find out how many poles exist in the City.

6) Commissioner Reports/Recommendations

- *Orlemann, Steinhauer, Lucero, Nellman asked for new business cards. They are requesting no titles be included.*
- *Chairperson Johnson and Orlemann requested to view the storage items on 08/29 at 3:00.*
- *Chairperson requested the status of the approved VA table in City Hall lobby area.*

Chairperson Johnson adjourned the meeting at 5:43 pm.

The next meeting will be held on September 18, 2023 at 4:00pm.