

CITY OF HAWTHORNE

VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

Erika Lampkin, Human Resources Director
Jose Saldana, Police Lieutenant



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 April 15, 2024

PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54954.3, THE AGENDA WAS POSTED AT CITY HALL BULLETIN BOARD AT 4455 W 126TH STREET ON THURSDAY, April 11, 2024 AT 4:00PM.

Chairperson Johnson called the Veteran’s Commission meeting to order at 4:07pm.

Roll Call: One member not present

Present: Chairperson Faye Johnson, Commissioners Kyle Orlemann, Stephen Nellman

Absent: Commissioner Daniel Lucero and Carol Steinhauer

Staff Present: Erika Lampkin, HR Director & LT. Jose Saldana

Flag – Commissioner Orlemann led the flag salute.

1) Oral Communication: None

2) Written Communications: None

3) Approval of Minutes

A. Postponed to next meeting due to no quorum

4) Staff Secretary Report/ Treasury Report:

A. Account Balance: \$4,100 plus a check that is incoming from VVA Chapter 57 for \$600

5) Commission’s Discussion/Action Items

A. Veterans Banner Project Update

- City Manager Norris located a vendor that was \$27 less expensive than the original vendor. He proposed that the commission use that vendor for the project.
- Chairperson Johnson motioned to go with the less expensive vendor. Commissioner Nellman seconded the motion. All Commissioners present were in favor.
- City Manager Norris offered to use the city's existing banner brackets in the Veterans Banner project, which would reduce costs.
- City Manager Norris suggested to have the first set of banners up on 126th Street from Memorial Day through July 4th.

- The action date to have all the banner applications in by April 26th.
 - Commissioner Orlemann mentioned that she has multiple names of veterans who were KIA in the Vietnam War. Commissioner Orlemann to get permission from these families to post banners of the deceased. She will also get the photos of these veterans.
- B. Cordary Project Update by City Attorney Robert Kim
- The City Council approved to build 17 units on the property in 2021. The company in charge of the project (Skid Row Project) went bankrupt and the project did not move forward.
 - Since then the City has moved in a new direction. The City Council approved a new project at that location. There will be 100 units built on the property. The project will include senior low-income housing.
 - The city of Hawthorne owns the land. The funding to build is a CA State grant.
 - The VA Commission requested to be notified by the city when a new housing project comes up.
- C. Fundraising
- Blaze Pizza fundraiser on hold until we hear from Commissioner Lucero
 - Commissioner Orlemann to fundraise through VVA Chapter
- D. Military and Veterans names list: To be removed from future agendas per Chairperson Johnson
- E. Calendar of Events for Commissioners
- Commissioner Orlemann to attend (4/17/24) LA County Veterans Advisory Commission meeting. I will forward the info to the group.
 - Commissioner inquired to have the Hawthorne Library set to have a Veterans assistance center. City Manager Norris to connect Commissioner Orlemann with the right person in charge of the library.
 - Commissioner Orlemann inquired about having a town hall meeting in Hawthorne for Veterans resources with Holly Mitchell.
 - Chairperson Johnson requested that Commissioner Orlemann report back in June on the Veteran's space in the Library and the Veteran Town Hall meeting.
 - Chairperson Johnson requested that these reports be put in the June Agenda.
- F. Webpage Review: None
- G. Events/Outreach:
- Reminder of Golf Tournament with Mike Toleda and Wounded Heroes of America on May 6th
 - There will be a Vets Advisory Commission Meeting on April 17th
- H. Legislative Review: None

6) Commissioner Reports/ Recommendations

- Commissioner Orleman stated the event on March 29th was very nice
- Commissioner Orlemann stated that she and husband were interviewed for a magazine article (she passed around)

7) Adjourn

- Chairperson Johnson adjourned the meeting at 5:05 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on May 6, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.