



CITY OF HAWTHORNE
VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
July 11, 2024

PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54954.3, THE AGENDA WAS POSTED AT CITY HALL BULLETIN BOARD AT 4455 W 126TH STREET ON THURSDAY, August 1, 2024 AT 4:00PM.

Chairperson Johnson called the Veteran's Commission meeting to order at 4:05pm.

Roll Call: All members present

Present: Chairperson Faye Johnson , Commisioners Kyle Orlemann, Stephen Nellman and Daniel Lucero, Carol Steinhauer

Absent: NA

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

Flag – Commissioner Lucero led the flag salute.

- 1) **Oral Communication:** Hawthorne Resident Presley Suomie present at meeting and willing to volunteer to help VA Commission
- 2) **Written Communications:** Email from Carmen Acosta requesting information regarding the Banner Project to honor her son. Chairperson Johnson to follow up.
- 3) **Approval of Minutes**
 - A. 6/3/24 Minutes: Commissioner Nellman in favor. Commissioner Lucero Second. Orlemann abstained
 - B. 1/8/24 Minutes: Commissioner Nellman in favor. Chairperson Johnson Second. Lucero abstained
 - C. 3/4/24 Minutes: Chairperson Johnson in favor. Commissioner Lucero Second. Nellman abstained.
 - D. 4/15/24 Minutes: Chairperson Johnson in favor. Commissioner Nellman Second. Steinhauer and Lucero Abstained.
- 4) **Staff Secretary Report/ Treasury Report:**
 - A. Account Balance: Needs to be updated due to money spent.
 - B. \$100 check from Commissioner Nellman towards his balance
 - C. Chairperson requests that the city provide \$3500 a year towards the Banner Project. Director Lampkin to follow up with request.
 - D. Request by Commission that the city provide an expense and deposit list from the account.
- 5) **Commission's Discussion/Action Items**
 - A. Veterans Banner Project Update
 - Positive feedback from the community
 - Banner on Hawthorne Blvd needs to be repaired

- Banner and photo for Duvi Wolf (Soldier KIA) needed. Will request from HPOA.
- Commission proposed that the photos from the project be placed on the VA Affairs Website in thumbnails under “Hawthorne Heroes”

B. Fundraiser planning

- Blaze Pizza fundraiser to be followed up by Commissioner Lucero. Commissioner Orlemann will provide him with the contact info.

C. Calendar of Events

- Proposal to bring back the Veterans Resource Fair at Memorial Center. Chairperson Johnson in favor. Commissioner Nellman Second. Everyone in favor. Proposed dates for this event are April 26th 2025 as first date. Backup date is April 12th 2025. Commissioner Orlemann to head the project and Commissioner Lucero will assist.
- Fleet Week is May 24th-26th
- Commissioner Lucero to attend Army Community Partners meeting June 5th in Burbank
- Stephen Bradford will be hosting a housing summit at Cal State Dominguez Hills at 10am on May 11th. Commissioner Nellman to attend.
- Commissioner Johnson attended a Wounded Warriors Golf Tournament on May 6th.

D. Webpage Review: Update new Banner Project with Thumbnails for Hawthorne Heroes

E. Events & Outreach: N/A

F. Legislative Review: N/A

6) Commissioner Reports/ Recommendations

- Chairperson Johnson announced that she is stepping down the VA Commission because she is running for City Council. Commissioner Nellman will be the new Chairperson for the VA Commission.
- Due to the holiday, the September VA Commission meeting will be held on 9/16/24

7) Adjourn

Chairperson Johnson adjourned the meeting at 5:18pm. The next meeting will be held on August 5, 2024 at 4:00pm.