



**COMMISSION ON VETERANS AFFAIRS
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
October 14, 2013**

The Commission on Veteran Affairs convened in a regular meeting on October 14, 2013 at City Hall, 301 West 2nd Street in Austin, Texas.

Chair Cassaundra St. John called the Board Meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

**Cassaundra St. John, Chair
Phillip Gutierrez, Vice Chair
John Conley**

**Chris Garcia
Bill McLellan
Linda Yoder**

Staff in Attendance: Allen Bergeron, Tina Lee

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Chair Cassaundra St. John asked Commission members to review minutes from the meeting on September 19, 2013. Vice Chair Phillip Gutierrez moved to approve the September 19, 2013 minutes. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Linda Yoder. Motion passed with no objection

2. OLD BUSINESS

- Updates by the Committee working groups lead on the top three priorities for our Veterans.
 - Homeless Veterans-Chris Garcia
 - Female Veterans-Cassaundra St. John
 - Employment and Education – John Conley
- The board has agreed to continue to reach out to the younger generation of Veterans and to keep them involved with the community
- The board has decided to get updates from San Antonio about the “One Stop Shop” for homeless Veterans and to have our younger generation to assist with this initiative for Austin.
- Decided upon getting an update on the disparity study from Jim Brennan about the VBE (Veteran Business Enterprise) and to find out the status of the House Bill 194 and Senate Bill 116.

3. NEW BUSINESS

- A presentation on OPSEC (Operations Security) will be given to the board in the December meeting by our board and commissions staff from the City.
- The theme for Veterans Day 2013 is Wounded Warriors and Travis County Veteran Services Officer; Olie Pope informed the board about the needs of the parade. The committee needed more school bands to participate and asked for the board members to help provide awareness about the essays for children to participate next year.

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS

N/A (No public hearings during this meeting)

5. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

N/A (No citizen Communication during this meeting)

6. STAFF BRIEFINGS

N/A (No Staff Briefings)

7. ADJOURN: Chair Cassandra St. John adjourned the meeting at 3:22 P.M. Without objection