



COMMISSION ON VETERANS AFFAIRS

AGENDA

Tuesday, March, 18, 2014

**2:00 pm – 4:00 pm in City Hall Council of Chambers Room 1001
301 West Second Street
Austin, TX 78701**

COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Cassandra St. John, Chair	Gary Linder
Phillip Gutierrez, Vice Chair	Bill McLellan
John Conley	Linda Yoder
Chris Garcia	

CALL TO ORDER

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Citizens signed up prior to the meeting being called to order will each be allowed a three-minute allotment to address their concerns regarding items not posted on the agenda.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Consider approval of the minutes from the Commission on Veterans Affairs February 18, 2014 regular meeting.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

4. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Last updates by the Committee working groups about the top three priorities for our Veterans in the City of Austin.
 - i. Homeless Veterans: Continues to support ECHO and attend meetings with the community to better serve and assist homeless Veterans.
 - ii. Employment and Education: Draft about recommendations for Veteran employment and education will be sent to the board members for further discussion.
 - iii. Female Veterans: Schedule of committee meetings to be determined and participating with Texas Veterans Commission for Women Veterans month.

- b. Discussion and update on meeting with council members and touring the new Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic.
- c. Discussion, consideration, and possible action on the next step to create a “One Stop Shop” for all Veterans.
- d. Discussion, consideration and update on the goals for the Veteran’s Commission and ways to impact the Veteran community. Also a discussion on the major accomplishments over the last 10 months for the end of the year review report by each commissioner.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Presentation and discussion led by Alan Graham, President and Founding member of Mobile Loaves and Fishes and how their organization plans to end homelessness in Austin and ideas on how he will support Veterans in his new community.
- b. Presentation and discussion led by Tom Orlando, CEO of Homes 4 Vets to present a general overview of his mission and goals towards ending Veteran homelessness in Austin.
- c. Presentation and discussion led by Amy Price, Community Information Director, 2-1-1 for United Way for Greater Austin. She will be giving an overview of the United Way Navigation Center and discussing how they can be a referral tool for the community, provide data to inform planning decisions, assist with health care navigation, and briefly cover our online database if there is time is permitted.

7. STAFF BRIEFINGS

N/A

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioners propose agenda items for future meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice at least 4 days before the meeting date.

Please call Allen Bergeron at the Veterans Program Department at 512-974-3459 or Allen.Bergeron@austintexas.gov for additional information; TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711.

For more information on the Veterans Commission, please contact Tina Lee at 512-974-3306 or visit <http://www.austintexas.gov/content/commission-veterans-affairs-1>