



COMMISSION ON VETERANS AFFAIRS

AGENDA

Wednesday, September 24, 2014

**2:00 pm in Street Jones Building (Conference Room 400A)
1000 E 11th St,
Austin, TX 78702**

COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Cassaundra St. John, Chair (Spelman)	Del Kolbe (Riley)
Phillip Gutierrez, Vice Chair (Martinez)	Bill McLellan (Leffingwell)
John Conley (Cole)	Linda Yoder (Tovo)
Chris Garcia (Morrison)	

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 August 19, 2014 regular meeting.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

4. OLD BUSINESS – For Discussion and Possible Action

- a. Updates and reports by the Committee working groups lead about the top three priorities for our Veterans in the City of Austin.
 - i. Homeless Veterans:
 - ii. Employment and Education:
 - iii. Female Veterans:
- b. Update on Capital City Metro bus passes for Veterans using their Veteran Affairs card.
- c. Discussion and action on rescheduling Veterans Commission Meeting for November, December and year 2015.

- d. Discussion on which commissioner will be representing the City of Austin at the Veterans Day Parade meetings held every 2nd and 4th Tuesday every month.

5. NEW BUSINESS - For Discussion and Possible Action

- a. Discussion and information about Veteran tax exemptions for Travis County by Marya Crigler, the Chief Appraiser for Travis Central Appraisal District.
- b. Discussion and presentation by Ruben Olgin, Army Veteran, with BAM Academy about alternative therapy for Veterans that his organization offers.
- c. Presentation by Ashley Kamrath, CoA communications director, talking about the Reveille Call event on November 9th in Burnet, Texas.
- d. Discussion and possible action on the approval for the Mayor's challenge to ending Veteran Homelessness prior to the next Council Meeting.

7. STAFF BRIEFINGS

- a. Update from Allen Bergeron – Signing of Mayor's Challenge to help end homeless veterans.

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>