



## **COMMISSION ON VETERANS AFFAIRS**

### **AGENDA**

**Wednesday, July 15, 2015**

**2:00 pm in City Hall Council Chambers Room 1001**

**301 W 2<sup>nd</sup> Street**

**Austin, TX 78701**

#### **COMMISSION MEMBERS:**

Douglas O'Connell – CM Gallo

Jason Denny – CM Kitchen

Phillip Gutierrez – CM Troxclair

George Bailey Harrington – MPT Tovo

Cassandra Melgar C'De Baca – CM Garza

VACANT – CM Casar

Pete Salazar – CM Pool

David Thomas – CM Houston

Nicholas Van Zandt – Mayor Adler

Guillermo Villarreal – CM Renteria

VACANT – CM Zimmerman

#### **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 Regular Meeting on June 17, 2015

#### **3. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **4. OLD BUSINESS – For Discussion and Possible Action**

- a. Determination and updates regarding the top three priorities for our Veterans in the City of Austin. Recommendations on changing the top three priorities from the last commission and working group assignments.
  - i. Homeless Veterans:
  - ii. Employment and Education:
  - iii. Female Veterans:
- b. Discussion and overview on the status of ending Homeless Veterans in Austin by 2015 initiated by Former Mayor Leffingwell and Mayor Adler's challenge to house

all Homeless Veterans by Veterans Day 2015 from Front Steps Program Director Greg McCormick.

#### **4. NEW BUSINESS – For Discussion and Possible Action**

- a. Introduction of Members
- b. Discussion of the Mission of the Veterans Commission
- c. Election of Officers
- d. Discussion and possible vote of amending the Veteran's Commission bylaws
  - i. Meeting monthly vs quarterly
- e. Rescheduling the Veterans Commission meeting time and date to reflect the New Commissioner's availability.

#### **6. STAFF BRIEFINGS**

- a. Introduction of Staff Liaisons and Department Staff
  - i. Brief overview from Jeff Burton of what HRD does and its affiliation with the Veterans Commission

#### **7. 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 2 days (48 Hours) 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>