

# **COMMISSION ON VETERANS AFFAIRS**

# **AGENDA**

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

# 6:00 pm in St Jones Building Conference Room 200A 1000 E 11<sup>th</sup> St Austin, TX 78702

## **COMMISSION MEMBERS:**

Jason Denny – Chair - CM Kitchen

Pete Salazar – Vice Chair - CM Pool

Ed Colinsky – CM Zimmerman

Douglas O'Connell – CM Gallo

Phillip Gutierres – CM Troxclair

VACANT – CM Garza

George Bailey Harrington – MPT Tovo

David Thomas – CM Houston

Guillermo Villarreal – CM Renteria

Nicholas Van Zandt – Mayor Adler

VACANT – CM Casar

#### 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 Special Called Meeting on September 16, 2015

## 3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Homeless Veterans Stand Down on October 23 at VFW Post 856 from 9AM-12:30PM 401 E Alpine Rd
- b. City of Austin Veterans Appreciation luncheon (City Employees only but open to Commissioners) on November 10<sup>th</sup> from 11-1PM
- c. Veterans Day Parade November 11th
- d. Mayors Proclamation at the Marine Corps Ball on November 14th

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

e. Discussion and updates regarding the top three priorities for our Veterans in the City of Austin.

- i. Homeless Veterans:
- ii. Employment, Transitioning Vets and Education:
- iii. Female Veterans:
- f. Discussion and update regarding the Veterans park initiative for the City of Austin.
- g. Discussion regarding the Veteran's resource center and the tour of ACC from the last meeting.

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

- a. Presentation and overview on the Mayor's Challenge to ending Homeless Veterans by Veteran's Day 2015 and the status of homeless veterans in Austin by Niki Paul the Director of Operations
- b. HEB's assistance and new program with wounded Veterans and their participation with assisting the Mayor's housing challenge.
- c. Presentation and overview by Clay Weger regarding his free business opportunity for Veterans from Freedom Office Supplies.

#### 6. STAFF BRIEFINGS

# 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 <a href="http://www.austintexas.gov/content/commission-veterans-affairs-1">http://www.austintexas.gov/content/commission-veterans-affairs-1</a>