



COMMISSION ON VETERANS AFFAIRS

AGENDA

Wednesday, February 17, 2016

6:30 pm in ACC Veterans Resource Center (Highland Mall)

6001 Airport Blvd

Austin, TX 78752

COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Jason Denny – Chair - CM Kitchen

Pete Salazar – Vice Chair - CM Pool

Douglas O'Connell – CM Gallo

Phillip Gutierrez – CM Troxclair

George Bailey Harrington – MPT Tovo

VACANT – CM Casar

David Thomas – CM Houston

Sandra Serna – CM Garza

Guillermo Villarreal – CM Renteria

Nicholas Van Zandt – Mayor Adler

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 Special Called Meeting on January 20, 2016.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

4. OLD BUSINESS – For Discussion and Possible Action

- a. 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:
- b. Continuation of the discussion regarding the update on the Veterans park initiative for the City of Austin.

- c. Continuation of the discussion regarding the creation of a mentorship program for transitioning Veterans to be paired with a Mentor from the Austin Community.
- d. 2015 City of Austin Veterans Commission End of year report.

4. NEW BUSINESS – For Discussion and Possible Action

- a. Presentation and overview on the Military Veteran Peer Network (MVPN) from Chris Araujo, peer services coordinator regarding veteran resources and the Veteran one stop shop initiative.
- b. Update regarding Veteran Business Enterprise (VBE) from the Small & Minority Business Resources (SMBR) disparity study.
- c. Update on Fort Hood Soldier Employment Internship Initiative (Allen)
- d. 2016 Veterans Day parade and Confederate flag discussion.

6. STAFF BRIEFINGS

- a. March is Women Veteran's Month and on March 17, Mayor Adler will present a proclamation honoring women veterans at the council meeting.

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>