



COMMISSION ON VETERANS AFFAIRS

AGENDA

Wednesday, June 15, 2016

**6:30 pm in ACC Veterans Resource Center (Highland Mall)
6001 Airport Blvd
Austin, TX 78752**

COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Jason Denny – Chair
Pete Salazar – Vice Chair
Douglas O’Connell
Phillip Gutierrez
George Bailey Harrington
VACANT

Molly Potter
David Thomas
Guillermo Villarreal
Nicholas Van Zandt
Lloyd Phillips

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 15, 2016

3. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Discussion and possible action 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. Update and next step in regards to the Veterans park initiative for the City of Austin.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Overview on the Veterans assessment by the Texas Veterans Commission on the highlights regarding Female Veterans by Anna Baker, Women Veterans Program Manager and Commissioner Molly Potter.
- b. Presentation and overview regarding the Veterans Economic Communities Initiative (VECI) by Colonel John Collins, USMC Retired. This program supports the economic success of Veterans and their families by bringing together community partners to coordinate and integrate services at a local level.
- c. Overview and discussion by “Make a Vet Sweat” organization regarding resources on PTSD and a healthy alternative to stress relief for local Veterans by Army Veteran, Justin Boflex Bohannon.
- d. Follow up and discussion regarding the Veterans Resource “One Stop Shop” initiative proposed by the Samaritan Center on the Senate Bill 55 by Christopher Araujo.

5. STAFF UPDATES

- a. Independence Day with WWII Veterans at the Long Center, July 4th
- b. Women Veterans Honor Flight
- c. Soldier Internship Update
- d. June is PTSD Awareness Month

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

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>