



COMMISSION ON VETERANS AFFAIRS

AGENDA

Thursday, October 20, 2016

**7:00 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
Ramiro Hinojosa

Adrenne Mendoza
Molly Potter
David Thomas
Guillermo Villarreal
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 August 17, 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. Updates and discussion regarding the Veterans Plaza initiative for the City of Austin from the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department.
- c. Discussion and updates regarding the City of Austin “One Stop Shop initiative.”

4. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Introduction of our newly appointed commissioner from Mayor Steve Adler's office Ramiro Hinojosa for the Commission on Veteran Affairs.
- b. Presentation and overview regarding the Austin Furniture Bank by Executive Director Bo Buell on his program to providing furniture to no longer homeless veterans in Austin, Texas.
- c. Karen Ingram with Red White Blues 512 to inform the commissioners about the House our Heroes blues music festival to raise awareness and funds for Austin's homeless Veterans.

5. STAFF UPDATES

- a. Soldier Internship Update
- b. Veterans Day Parade, November 11th
- c. City of Austin Veterans Appreciation Luncheon – November 10th - City Employees only.
- d. Homeless Stand Down – October 21 at VFW Post 856, 406 East Alpine Rd, 9AM - 12PM

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>