

COMMISSION ON VETERAN AFFAIRS MEETING MINUTES



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SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
January 16, 2019

The Commission on Veteran Affairs convened in a special called meeting on January 16, 2019 at One Texas Center located on 505 Barton Springs Rd 12th Floor, Austin Texas 78704

Chair Jason Denny called the Board Meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Jason Denny - Chair
Pete Salazar- Vice Chair
Daarel Burnette

Phillip Gutierrez
Manuel Jimenez
Adrenne Mendoza

Staff in Attendance: Allen Bergeron, Karen Haywood, Tina Lee

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Chair Denny asked the Commission members to review the minutes from the regular meeting on November 14, 2018. Vice Chair Pete Salazar made a motion to approve the meeting minutes and Commissioner Manual Jimenez seconded the motion. Motion passed with no objection.

2. BUSINESS

- Commissioner Jimenez and Pete Valdez with the COA-Community Court Department updated the Commission on the status of the Community/Municipal Veterans Court and stated that the jurisdiction would be City wide. Austin Police Department would be able to identify who is a veteran (Identification early in process). Propose a policy or ordinance to council or possible grant from the Texas Veterans Commission. Class C (City) – Traffic, Community Court – Criminal in nature / B and higher (Limited Jurisdiction).
- Commissioner Mendoza provided some amendments recommendations to the 2017 End of year Report: She provided basic provisions and to look at the other commission reviews. Request to add and highlight some of the projects and resubmit the report to the City Clerk's office. Add Veterans Court and change some bullet points on VBE, Veterans Park, AVAFEST, Suicide in Veterans and goals and objectives for the next meeting. Recommend to review the next end of year report before July.
- Work groups: Suicide in Veterans, housing and mental health, veteran families, women veterans, housing, employment, municipal court, veterans park

3. PUBLIC HEARINGS

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- N/A (No public hearings during this meeting)

4. STAFF UPDATES

- City of Austin Veterans Resource Center Need's assessment bids have been closed and will decide on the contractor at the end of February.

5. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

- NA

ADJOURN: Jason Denny adjourned the meeting at 8:03 PM. Without objection