

COMMISSION ON VETERAN AFFAIRS MEETING MINUTES



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SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
November 19, 2020

The Commission on Veteran Affairs convened in a Special Called Meeting on November 19, 2020 via WebEx Remote meeting.

Chair Doris Williams called the Board Meeting to order at 1:10PM.

Board Members in Attendance:

Doris Williams - Chair	Josephine Hinds
Manuel Jimenez - Vice Chair	Adrenne Luna
Alfred Bingham	Thomas Just
Jose Carrasco	Pete Salazar
Jason Denny	

Staff in Attendance: Tina Lee

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Chair Williams asked the Commission members to review the minutes from the special called meeting on September 23, 2020. Commissioner Hinds made a motion to approve the meeting minutes and Commissioner Bingham seconded the motion. Motion passed with no objection.

2. OLD BUSINESS

- a) To discuss and provide further guidance on the Municipal Veteran Courts Policy, there is a need for additional funds for a pilot program due to COVID. This recommendation for the Municipal Veterans Court has already been submitted to the City Council.
- b) The Commission has decided to table the discussion on the proposed Transition Assistance Program. Commissioner Salazar made the motion and Commissioner Just seconded it.
- c) The Commission will draft up a recommendation to City Council on placing a memorial honoring WWII and Vietnam Veterans in East Austin. Upon approval of the recommendation, the recommendation will direct the City Manager to have the Parks and Recreation Department work with the Austin Travis County Vietnam Memorial Association on the placement of the memorial.

3. NEW BUSINESS

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- a) The Sobering Center provided an update on their efforts and programs benefitting veterans. In FY 19, 160 military and veterans were served and in FY20, 78 military and veterans were served. The Sobering Center enhances Public Health and safety by providing a safe place for publicly intoxicated individuals to sober up as an alternative to the emergent room or jail to provide a bridge to recovery.

ADJOURN: Chair Williams adjourned the meeting at 1:40 PM without objection