



COMMISSION ON VETERANS AFFAIRS MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING
April 20, 2022**

The Commission on Veteran Affairs convened in a Regular Meeting on April 20, 2022 at the City of Austin Planning and Development Center, 6310 Wilhelmina Delco Drive, Austin, Texas 78752.

Chair Manuel Jimenez called the Board Meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

Board Members in Attendance:

Manuel Jimenez - **Chair**
Alfred Bingham
Jason R. Denny
Christopher Wilson

Maria Brown-Spence
Elisabeth Collura-Rosenberg
Pete A. Salazar

Staff in Attendance: Jennifer Harless, Investigator, OCR; Rikki Pfouts, Investigator, OCR

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

None

1) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Jimenez asked the Commission members to review the minutes from the regular called meeting on February 16, 2022. Commissioner Salazar made a motion to approve the meeting minutes, Commissioner Bingham second. Motion passed on a vote of 7-0 with Chair Jimenez, and Commissioners Bingham, Brown-Spence, Collura-Rosenberg, Denny, Salazar and Wilson in favor.

2) OLD BUSINESS

- a) Discussion and possible action regarding Commission Working Groups and the Commission's 2021-22 goals. (Sponsors: Pete Salazar, Manuel Jimenez)
 - i. Create and fund a Veterans Office
 - ii. Identifying any veteran encampments and number of homeless veterans located in the City of Austin
 - iii. Organize a task force to work with other commissions to organize a Veterans FestivalThe Commission discussed this item. The Commission took no action on this item.
- b) Discussion and possible action on a recommendation to correct or revert the park name "Veterans Pocket Park" to read "Veterans Park." (Sponsors: Manuel Jimenez, Jason Denny)

The Commission discussed this item. The Commission took no action on this item.

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- c) Presentation by Edwin Marty, Food Policy Manager, City of Austin Office of Sustainability, followed by discussion and possible action on the food planning process and emergency operations. (Sponsors: Manuel Jimenez, Pete Salazar)

The presenter was unavailable. The Commission took no action on this item. The Commission agreed to return this item to a future agenda.

3) NEW BUSINESS

- a) Presentation by Glenn Towery, Event Consultant/Coordinator, Austin Veteran Arts (AVA) Festival, followed by discussion and possible action on a recommendation to Council regarding fee waivers for AVAFEST 2022. Sponsors: Jimenez/Salazar

The Commission took no action on this item. The Commission agreed to return to this item in a future agenda.

4) STAFF UPDATES

None

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Note: Next meeting is Wednesday, May 18, 2022.

ADJOURN: Chair Jimenez adjourned the meeting at 7:46 PM on unanimous consent.

These minutes were approved at the May 18, 2022 meeting motion made by Pete Salazar, Second by Cam Wilson; 6-0