



Minutes Tempe Veterans Commission June 7, 2022

Minutes of the TEMPE VETERANS COMMISSION held on Tuesday, June 7, 2022, 6:00 p.m., via In-person.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Jeremy Farr, Chair
Abe McCann, Vice-Chair
Chantele Carr
William "Bill" Blair
Phillip Kraft
Randy Elston
Beno Thomas
Cory Pechtl

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Celia Sadhu
Juan Garcia

Staff Present:

Octavia Harris, Deputy Human Services Director
Danielle Palka, Admin Assistant II

Guest:

Nicole Baker, Arizona Department of Veterans' Services

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

Chair Jeremy Farr called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Agenda Item 2 – Attendance

Agenda Item 3 – Public Appearances-

The Tempe Veterans Commission welcomes public comment. According to the Arizona Open Meeting Law, the Commission may only discuss matters listed on its meeting agendas. Matters brought-up by the public under public appearances that are not listed on the meeting agenda cannot be discussed by the Commission. A three (3)-minute time limit per person will be in effect.

Agenda Item 4 – Review and Approval of May 3, 2022 minutes

MOTION: Motion to APPROVE May 3, 2022, minutes by Commission Member Philip Kraft

SECOND: Motion seconded by Commission Member Randy Elston

AYES: Commission Members William “Bill” Blair, Chair Jeremy Farr, Beno Thomas, Chantele Carr, Vice Chair Abe McCann, Cory Pechtl

Agenda Item 5 – Chair’s Remarks

Chair Jeremy Farr recognized new Commission Member Cory Pechtl who was present for his first meeting.

Agenda Item 6 –Arizona Department of Veterans’ Services Update

Assistant Deputy Director Nicole Baker from Arizona Department of Veterans’ Services (AZDVS) gave an informative presentation on all the different programs and services offered by AZDVS, such as Veteran Benefit Counselors, tuition assistance, supportive campuses, Veterans Memorial Cemeteries and State Veteran Homes. She stressed that they are a state agency, not federal like the Veterans Administration.

Agenda Item 7 – Tempe Tomorrow Technical Advisory Group Representation

Committee members reviewed the two page handout.

Agenda Item 8 – Commission Member Updates/Announcements

Jeremy: Discussed taking July off from meeting and reconvening in August. The commission all agreed to do so. He also mentioned that the new Veterans Coordinator may be hired by then and will attend the board meetings.

Randy: AZCMF is working with a local AC company to provide an AC package deal to a local veteran family.

Nominations are being accepted. Contact Randy or call 866-4AZ-VETS to make a nomination.

Abe: National Guard is readying to deploy members.

Beno – no update. Phil – no update. Bill – no update. Chantele -no update. Cory -no update.

Agenda Item 9 – Future Agenda Items – August 2, 2022

William “Bill” Blair suggested an update from Valor on 8th. Any suggestions, concerns or comments for the next agenda, please reach out to Octavia Harris.

Agenda Item 10 – Adjournment

MOTION: Motion to adjourn by Commission Member William “Bill” Blair

SECOND: Motion seconded by Commission Member Abe McCann, Vice-Chair

AYES: Randy Elston, Beno Thomas, Chantele Carr, Chair Jeremy Farr, Philip Kraft, Cory Pechtl

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Next meeting will be on August 2, 2022.

Minutes Prepared by: Danielle Palka
Reviewed by Octavia Harris

Jeremy Farr, Chair
Tempe Veterans Commission