



**FORT ORD REUSE AUTHORITY
VETERANS ISSUES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (VIAC) MEETING MINUTES
3:00 P.M. April 27, 2017 | FORA Conference Room
920 2nd Avenue, Suite A., Marina CA 93933**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Ian Oglesby called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M.

Committee Members:

James Bogan, Disabled American Veterans (DAV)
Col. Lawrence Brown, U.S. Army Presidio of Monterey
Edith Johnsen, Veterans Families (VF)
Jack Stewart, Fort Ord Veterans Cemetery Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)
Sid Williams, Monterey County Military & Veterans Advisory Commission (VAC)
Ian Oglesby, US Army Veteran (**Chair**)
Mary Estrada, United Veterans Council (UVC)
Wes Morrill, Monterey County Office of Military & Veterans Affairs (MCOMVA)
Richard Garza Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Foundation (CCVCF)
J. Alan Fagan, Veterans Transit Center (VTC)

FORA Staff:

Robert Norris
Hermelinda Flores

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led Ian Oglesby

3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

Robert Norris, Principal Analyst, introduced Hermelinda Flores, Administrative Assistant, who will provide the administrative support to the VIAC meetings. Ian Oglesby also introduced Princess and Ray Pope who represent the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People who will start attending the VIAC meetings.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no verbal comments from the public

5. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

a. March 23, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION: On motion by Committee member Sid Williams and second by Committee member Col. Lawrence Brown and carried by the following vote, the VIAC moved to approve the March 23, 2017 meeting minutes

MOTION: PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

a. California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery (CCCVC) Status Report

- i. Cemetery Administrator's Status
Mr. Robert Norris provided an update on the CCCVC status report. The committee was informed of the regular schedule for burial events until the end of the year. Mr. Norris also provided further information on the habitat mitigation requirements. The CVA and the County of Monterey (with the assistance of FORA) are working to meet environmental regulations. This process involves designating certain areas and moving existing plants from one area to another to offset the impacts.
- ii. Veterans Cemetery Land Use Status
Discussion on Veterans Cemetery Land Use Status and Fort Ord Committee Verbal Report were combined. See item below.
- iii. Fort Ord Committee Verbal Report: Oak Woodlands Mitigation & Endowment MOU
The committee was informed that the County Fort Ord Committee postponed the MOU meeting. A revised MOU will be considered to reflect current circumstances. The revised MOU will be presented and reviewed by the Board of Supervisors Fort Ord Board Committee.
- iv. Senator Monning Veterans Advisory Meeting
Mr. Norris provided a brief report on the Veterans Advisory Meeting. Senator Monning is preparing for an intense fundraising effort to meet local match requirements for the cemetery expansion phase. Approximately \$3 million will be needed by September 2017. *Jack Stewart made a motion, Edith Johnsen seconded the motion to seek funding from other jurisdictions, cities, and counties on a cooperative basis.* Senator Monning proposed to create a working group to identify business sector representatives, elected officials, and potentially large donors and reach out surrounding jurisdictions.

MOTION: On motion by Committee member Jack Stewart and second by Committee member Edith Johnsen and carried by the following vote, the VIAC moved to seek financial support from other jurisdictions, cities and counties on a cooperative basis

MOTION: PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Fundraising Status

- i. CCVCF Status Report
Richard Garza informed the committee that the "Epic Riders" will kick off the national effort on August 24, 2017. The fundraiser deadline of August 31st for the State local match application. The committee was also informed about a potential contribution of \$350K to offset a portion of the costs accrued from fundraising efforts.

c. VA/DoD Veterans Clinic Status Report

- i. Historic Flag Pole Variance Update
City of Marina expressed interest in maintaining the historic flag pole location where the current flag pole now stands and are coming to an agreement on shared costs.
- ii. Operational Schedule
The Monterey Herald News article stated the Marina VA-DoD Clinic's grand opening is set

for August 3rd of this year. Active duty and retired will have the ability to receive service in the same location. Further details regarding CCCVC participation in the ceremony will follow at a later date.

d. Veterans Transition Center (VTC) Housing Construction

The Veterans Transition Center is working on fundraising for another set of houses and to break ground this fall. The MOU for Patriot Housing was signed by Col. Brown and members of the Parks for a total of six family residences.

The approval for Light Fighter Village, scheduled for 71 housing units, is still pending.

e. Historical Preservation Project (HPP)

Cliff Guinn reported an upcoming meeting with a contractor to assess one of the buildings and obtain an estimate for restoration or stabilization. Mr. Guinn will also be requesting fencing from the City of Marina around the area of the museum site.

7. ITEMS FROM MEMBERS

There were no items reported from members.

8. ADJOURNMENT at 3:58 P.M.