



**FORT ORD REUSE AUTHORITY
VETERANS ISSUES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (VIAC) MEETING MINUTES
3:00 P.M. May 25, 2017 | FORA Conference Room
920 2nd Avenue, Suite A., Marina CA 93933**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Ian Oglesby called the meeting to order at 3:03 P.M.

Committee Members:

Edith Johnsen, Veterans Families (VF)

Sid Williams, Monterey County Military & Veteran Affairs Office(MVAO)

Ian Oglesby, US Army Veteran (**Chair**)

Mary Estrada, United Veterans Council (UVC)

Richard Garza Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Foundation (CCVCF)

Jack Murphy, Veterans Transit Center (VTC)

Jack Stewart, Monterey County California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Advisory Committee

J. Alan Fagan, Veterans Transition Center (VTC)

Erica Parker, Office of Assemblyman Mark Stone, 29th State District

Candi Ingram Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Foundation (CCVCF)

FORA Staff:

Michael Houlemard

Robert Norris

Hermelinda Flores

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Erica Parker.

3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

The Committee was provided with copies of a Veterans Affairs News Release and a Monterey Herald article, "An Interment at the Veterans Cemetery".

4. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no verbal comments from the public

5. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

a. April 27, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION: On motion by Committee member Jack Stewart and second by Committee member Sid Williams and carried by the following vote, the VIAC moved to approve the April 27, 2017 meeting minutes

MOTION: PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

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

i. Cemetery Administrator's Status

Michael Houlemard and Committee members expressed concern over the Central Coast Veterans Cemetery manager's termination. A letter will be written by the Committee to articulate their position on the current situation and to push for local hire.

ii. Veterans Cemetery Land Use Status

Robert Norris explained the expansion phase draft documents estimate: the first official document of *Summary of Costs by Phase, Funding Date and Estimate Notes*, and the *Budget Information Report* was also reviewed.

iii. Fort Ord Committee Verbal Report: Oak Woodlands Mitigation & Endowment MOU

Mr. Norris reviewed the complications with the MOU. The MOU is currently being redrafted after the County expressed concerns on how to meet the mitigation. The City of Seaside and the County are in support of the cemetery and a proposed to exchange land to avoid the need for the cemetery to purchase new land.

iv. Senator Monning Veterans Advisory Meeting

Mr. Norris presented a fundraising activity report to achieve community matched funds.

b. Fundraising Status

i. CCVCF Status Report

Mr. Norris will be in Washington D.C. May 30, 2017 - June 2, 2017, representing the Central Coast Veterans Cemetery. Candi Ingram provided information to the Committee on the current expansion marketing push and digital coverage on KSBW News. A Rotary Grant has been requested for \$100,000 in a letter to past donors explaining the current situation and a request for donations.

c. VA/DoD Veterans Clinic Status Report

i. Historic Flag Pole Variance Update

Jack Murphy informed the committee that the Veterans Transition Center was approached by the Marina Foundation. Due to fundraising and discussions with Monterey Peninsula Engineering, at no cost to the Veterans Transition Center, the historical flag pole would be re-engineered, relocated, and placed at Martinez Hall instead of the VA/DoD Veterans clinic.

This item will no longer be included on the agenda unless necessary or it is brought up as a general comment.

ii. Operational Schedule

The VA/DoD is on schedule to open August 2017.

d. Veterans Transition Center (VTC) Housing Construction

Jack Murphy reported a fundraising campaign effort to raise funds for the next set of six permanent housing units is in process and that the pending approval to the water rights transfer is still in legal review.

- e. **Historical Preservation Project (HPP)**
No information to report

7. ITEMS FROM MEMBERS

There were no items reported from members.

8. ADJOURNMENT at 4:00 P.M.