



FORT ORD REUSE AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING FORT ORD REUSE AUTHORITY (FORA) VETERANS ISSUES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (VIAC)

Thursday, October 24, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.

920 2nd Avenue, Suite A, Marina CA 93933 (FORA Conference Room)

AGENDA

1. **CALL TO ORDER/ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Members of the public wishing to address the Committee on matters within its jurisdiction, but not on this agenda, may do so for up to 3 minutes and will not receive Committee action. Whenever possible, written correspondence should be submitted to the Committee in advance of the meeting, to provide adequate time for its consideration.

5. **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES** **ACTION**
 - a. August 22, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes
 - b. September 26, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes

6. **BUSINESS ITEMS** **INFORMATION/ACTION**

Business items are for Committee discussion, debate, direction to staff, and/or action. Comments from the public are not to exceed 3 minutes or as otherwise determined by the Chair.

- a. **Affordable Housing**
 - i. Veterans Transition Center Housing Development
- b. **Post-FORA VIAC Committee**
 - i. Letter to FORA Board of Directors
- c. **Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Status Report**
 - i. CCVCF Status Report
- d. **Ord Military Community**
- e. **Fundraising Status**
 - i. CCVCF
- f. **VA-DOD Clinic**
- g. **Military & Veterans Affairs Office – Monthly Report**
- h. **Calendar of Events**

7. **ITEMS FROM MEMBERS**

Receive communication from Committee members as it pertains to future agenda items.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

NEXT MEETING: November 21, 2019



**FORT ORD REUSE AUTHORITY
VETERANS ISSUES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (VIAC) MEETING MINUTES
3:00 p.m. August 22, 2019 | FORA Conference Room
920 2nd Avenue, Suite A, Marina CA 93933**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair, Mayor Ian Oglesby, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present:

Ian Oglesby, Mayor of Seaside
Edith Johnsen, Veterans Families/Fundraising
James Bogan, Disabled American Veterans
Jason Cameron, Monterey County Office of Military & Veteran Affairs
Candace Ingram, CCVC Foundation
Col. Gregory Ford, U.S. Army
Sid Williams, Monterey County Office of Military & VA Commission

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** led by Committee member Jason Cameron.

3. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND CORRESPONDENCE**

- FORA Executive Assistant Heidi Lizarbe, announced that Administrative Coordinator, Shawn Hall, has left FORA for a position at the Local Agency Formation Commission of Monterey ("LAFCO"). She advised the Committee that Administrative Assistant, Natalie Van Fleet, will be providing VIAC meeting support going forward.
- Committee member Jason Cameron distributed an infographic handout summarizing the Monterey County Military and Veterans Affairs Office Annual Activity Report. The reported annual contribution totaled \$12,091,988. Mr. Cameron announced that effective January 1, 2020, all armed forces veterans will have access to the base, regardless of their status, and will be able to shop at the commissary. In addition, Mr. Cameron reported that Blue Water Navy vietnam veterans may now file for presumptive conditions with the Veterans Affairs ("VA") office.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

None.

5. **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

- a. July 25, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION: On motion by Committee member Johnsen and seconded by Committee Chair Oglesby, the VIAC Committee approved the July 25, 2019 meeting minutes.

MOTION: PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

INFORMATION/ACTION

a. Affordable Housing

i. *Veterans Transition Center Housing Construction*

Jack Murphy of the Veterans Transition Center ("VTC"), provided an update on the supportive housing programs VTC offers. Mr. Murphy reported that a grant application in the amount of \$4 million has been submitted to the California Health Commission by the developer. The Request for Qualifications window for grant applicants has closed. The VTC Board met on August 21, 2019 approving an agreement between the VTC, the developer, and the contractor in preparation for moving forward with the project should the grant be awarded to the VTC project. Mr. Murphy also announced that the VTC is honored to receive an award for Non-Profit of the Year in the Human Services category from the Non-Profit Alliance of Monterey County. The award ceremony is scheduled for September 13, 2019 from 8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. at Embassy Suites in Monterey.

b. Post-FORA VIAC Committee

Chair Oglesby reported that FORA is continuing to develop a plan, along-side local agencies, to ensure a closely related, liason, or governing entity, is established prior to FORA dissolution.

c. California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Status Report

California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery ("CCCVC") Manager, Erica Chaney, provided an update on Phase II. She stated that the bidding period has closed and 4 bids were received and are currently under review. Phase II progress remains on schedule and construction may begin as early as November 2019. Ms. Chaney stated the interment project is estimated to begin in spring or summer of 2021.

d. Ord Military Community

Committee member Col. Gregory Ford updated the committee on the continuing efforts to transfer the Drill Sergeant Statue to CCCVC.

e. Fundraising Status

i. *Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Foundation Status Report*

Candy Ingram of the CCCVC Foundation provided an events update. A reception will be held at American Legion Post 31 ("Post 31") in Salinas on September 8, 2019 from 1 p.m.-3 p.m. to celebrate the Epic Ride for Dignity and Remembrance. On August 29, 2019, Ms. Chaney, Mr. Cameron, Ms. Ingram and Mr. Garza will be sharing a booth for Seniors' Day at the Monterey County Fair. They hope to provide information and answer questions from local seniors and/or veterans. The Heroes' Open is scheduled for October 26, 2019 and Ms. Ingram noted the need for sponsors and auction items. The Honor Our Fallen run is scheduled for October 11-13, 2019 and remains in need of sponsors, volunteers and runners/walkers. Ms. Ingram informed the Committee that once construction begins on Phase II, the next step will be to organize a Memorials Committee to discuss the devolpment of a donor facility.

f. VA-DOD Clinic

Committee member James Bogan reported on the upcoming meetings at Post 31 in Salinas.

g. Calendar of Events

A BBQ will held September 25, 2019 from 1 p.m.- 3 p.m. at the Monterey County Veterans Building to celebrate Post 31's 100th anniversary.

7. ITEMS FROM MEMBERS

Mr. Murphy announced that the 2019 Monterey County Homeless Census is scheduled for press release on September 23, 2019. This comprehensive analysis of the county's homeless population, including veterans, is intended to help policy makers and service providers to better assist the County's homeless.

8. ADJOURNMENT at 3:42 p.m.

Minutes Prepared by:
Natalie Van Fleet

DRAFT



**FORT ORD REUSE AUTHORITY
VETERANS ISSUES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (VIAC) MEETING MINUTES
3:00 P.M. September 26, 2019 | FORA Conference Room
920 2nd Avenue, Suite A, Marina CA 93933**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair, Ian Oglesby, called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M.

Committee Members Present:

Edith Johnsen, Veterans Families/Fundraising
Ian Oglesby, Mayor of Seaside
James Bogan, Disabled American Veterans
Jason Cameron, Monterey County Office of Military & Veteran Affairs
Richard Garza, CCVC Foundation
Mary Estrada, United Veterans Council
Sid Williams, Monterey County Military and Veteran Advisory Commission
Jack Stewart, Fort Ord Veterans Cemetery Advisory Committee

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** led by Sid Williams.

3. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

- Marina Perepelyuk announced she is leaving her position with Congressman Jimmy Panetta's Office. Ms. Perepelyuk introduced her replacement, Katharine Moon, and expressed her appreciation for the Committee and her gratitude for the opportunity to serve the veterans community.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

There were no comments from the public.

5. **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

- a. August 22, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes

**Staff will bring the minutes back to the Committee with corrections for approval.*

6. **BUSINESS ITEMS**

INFORMATION/ACTION

a. **Affordable Housing**

i. **Veterans Transition Center Housing Development**

Marina Veterans Transition Center ("VTC") Deputy Executive Director Jack Murphy provided an update on supportive housing programs VTC offers. Mr. Murphy reported that a Request for Proposal to repurpose the former Veterans Affairs ("VA") Clinic for housing was successfully submitted. An application was also submitted to develop in the Menlo Park area. Mr. Murphy stated that more projects will begin at the beginning of the new fiscal year ("FY").

b. Post-FORA VIAC Committee

Committee member Sid Williams reported he attended the August 23, 2019 County Fort Ord Committee meeting and raised concern regarding transition plan implementation. Mr. Williams noted the plan's only reference to Post-FORA veterans issues is the Memorandum of Understanding for a veterans cemetery endowment parcel. Mr. Williams recommended reaching out to the FORA Board to encourage designation of a successor entity to oversee the completion of the California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery ("CCCVC") and several other veterans projects in the region. The Committee discussed how to communicate these concerns to FORA's Board of Directors and County Board of Supervisors. Chair Oglesby stated he would consult with FORA Executive Officer Michael Houlemard and return to the October 24, 2019 meeting to outline issues the Committee intends to present to the Board.

c. California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Status Report

Ms. Perepelyuk noted that CCCVC was awarded a \$6.4M federal grant for construction, memorial plaques, roadways, landscaping and supportive infrastructure. Committee member Bogan asked if the grant applies to FY 2019 or 2020 budgets and Ms. Moon stated she would confirm and report back. As requested by CCCVC Manager Erica Chaney, staff provided a flyer announcing CCCVC will receive the Organizational Excellence Award on October 9, 2019. The ceremony will take place at CCCVC at 9:00 a.m. and features guest speaker Senator Bill Monning. Ms. Ingram requested an update regarding available chapel buildings for the cemetery and Presidio of Monterey ("POM") Retirement Services Officer Kai Yuan stated he will provide more information as it becomes available.

d. Ord Military Community

Mr. Yuan answered members' questions regarding the Army Retiring Soldier Commendation Program package. He informed the Committee that the package is generally provided to service members who retired after 2012, but he would gladly provide one to any military retiree. Contact Mr. Yuan to request a package.

e. Fundraising Status

i. Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Foundation Status Report

Committee member Richard Garza reported on the Epic Ride and is in the process of determining funds raised by the event. Mr. Williams reported the Heroes Open will take place Saturday, October 26, 2019 at Bayonet and Black Horse Golf Club in Seaside. He noted the event still needs volunteers, sponsors, golfers and auction items. Mrs. Ingram stated CCCVC is in development phase two of nine, with ongoing maintenance and operations costs, therefore continued fundraising efforts and community outreach are essential for the project's completion.

f. VA-DOD Clinic

Committee member James Bogan provided an update on VA-DOD events, and noted that on September 18, 2019 the VA hosted a celebration honoring veterans of the Korean War and WWII with around three hundred veterans in attendance. Mr. Bogan reported that the same afternoon at the Salinas Town Hall meeting there were only about five veterans present. The next Town Hall meetings will take place in December at Post 593 in Prunedale and in March at the Seaside VA Clinic, details to come.

g. Military & Veterans Affairs Office – Monthly Report

Committee member Jason Cameron provided a Military & Veterans Affairs Office (“MVAO”) Activity Report for the month of August. He informed the Committee that MVAO has coordinated with VTC to expand services and now provides on-site veteran claims assistance on the third Thursday of every month and discharge claims assistance on the first Friday of every month at POM. Mr. Cameron reported MVAO is in early stages of collaboration with local public libraries to introduce video conferencing software for virtual claims assistance in underserved areas of the county. He noted that the Women Veterans Alliance will hold the 2019 unConference at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Monterey October 11-13 and the 28th Annual Veteran of the Year Awards will take place on November 8th at Bayonet & Black Horse.

h. Calendar of Events

- The Office of Congressman Jimmy Panetta will host a Committal Service honoring World War I Army Veteran Mr. Edward Auton Adams on September 30th at the San Francisco National Cemetery.
- The 29th Annual Wheelchair Rock Cod Fishing Derby will hold a pre-registration and dinner on October 4th at American Legion Post 694 in Marina, with the Derby the following morning, October 5th at 6:00 a.m.
- The 7th Annual Honor Our Fallen 5k/10k run will take place at Fort Ord Dunes State Park on October 19th at 7:00 a.m.
- The 10th Annual Heroes Open Golf Tournament will be held at Bayonet and Black Horse Golf Club on October 26th.
- The 28th Annual Veteran of the Year Awards will be held at Bayonet and Black Horse Golf Club on November 8th.

7. ITEMS FROM MEMBERS

Chair Oglesby confirmed he would review this meeting’s main points with Mr. Houlemard and return to the next meeting to discuss the status of the VIAC post.

8. ADJOURNMENT at 3:58 p.m.

Minutes Prepared by:
Natalie Van Fleet