



FORT ORD REUSE AUTHORITY

VETERANS ISSUES ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

3:00 p.m., Thursday, June 27, 2013 | FORA Conference Room
920 2nd Avenue, Suite A, Marina, CA 93933

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Edelen called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. A roll call confirmed a quorum. The following were present, as indicated by signatures on the roll sheet:

VIAC Members:

Jerry Edelen, FORA Board
Ian Oglesby, FORA Board
Command Sgt. Major Wynn, US Army
James Bogan, United Veterans Council
Sid Williams, Mo. Co. Military/Vets
Wes Morrill, Mo. Co. Vets Services
Edith Johnsen, Vets Families/Fundraising
Greg Nakanishi, CCVC Foundation
Jack Stewart, Cemetery Advisory Comm.

FORA Staff:

Michael Houlemard
Robert Norris
Jonathan Garcia
Crissy Maras

Others:

Candy Ingram
Nicole Charles (via phone)
Erica Parker

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Edelen asked Robert Norris to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

a. **Legislative Approval of California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Funding**

Nicole Charles announced that Governor Brown signed the FY 2013/14 budget, inclusive of \$1.5M allocation for the California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery (CCCVC). She added that the Governor was expected to consider SB106 within the next several days. VIAC members thanked Ms. Charles and asked her to convey their appreciation to Senator Monning.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

5. APPROVE VIAC MEETING MINUTES: MAY 30, 2013

MOTION: Edith Johnsen moved, seconded by Jack Stewart, to accept the May 30, 2013 minutes as presented.

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

6. OLD BUSINESS

a. **Receive report of Fort Ord Reuse Authority meetings with US Department of Veterans Affairs, US Army and CA Department of General Services**

FORA staff participated in Sacramento meetings to ensure state agency coordination of tasks that must be accomplished to allow the CCCVC property transfer and acceptance by the state for a subsequent grant application by August 1st.

Additionally, FORA's annual Legislative Mission to Washington DC took place the week of June 10th and meetings were held with US Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) and the US Army Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC). USDVA representatives indicated that cemetery funding priority had been elevated to Category 1 (as a new cemetery, the CCCVC was previously in Category 2), additionally noting the importance of meeting the August 1st deadline for grant application. If that deadline is not met, there is a possibility that funding will not be available in next year's budget. Review of the construction budget to determine federally reimbursable costs is ongoing.

BRAC representatives were receptive to FORA's request for water from the Army's retention to serve the cemetery and veterans clinic needs. Staff is working to refine actual amounts required.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Discussion of Post Reassessment policy issues

At the June 21st FORA Board meeting, the Board did not accept Post Reassessment Advisory Committee (PRAC) recommendations on the structure of a to-be-scheduled colloquium. The PRAC recommended four topics of discussion in a colloquium style setting. The PRAC will revise their recommendations based on Board input following the VIAC meeting.

VIAC members made several suggestions regarding proposed modifications. They indicated concern that land use restrictions around the cemetery could be detrimental to the project.

Staff noted that the colloquium was intended to discuss ideas and ways to implement the three E's of the Base Reuse Plan, not about changing the plan.

MOTION: Ms. Johnsen moved, seconded by James Bogan, that the VIAC advise the FORA Board, when scheduling the colloquium, to promote emphasis on the three E's, strengthening or clarifying the language related to economic recovery and jobs generation, and minimizing the emphasis on the National Monument from being "considered in all aspects" to a supporting role.

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

8. ITEMS FROM MEMBERS

None.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Edelen adjourned the meeting at 3:47 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Crissy Maras, Grants and Contracts Coordinator

Approved by: _____
Michael A. Houlemard, Jr.