

Meeting Minutes

Military and Veterans Affairs Commission

Regular Meeting

May 14, 2024 | 5:00 p.m.
Chandler City Council Conference Room
88 E. Chicago St., Chandler, AZ



Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Farabee at 5:04 p.m.

Roll Call

Commission Attendance

Chair Carol Farabee
Vice Chair Michael Simon
Commissioner Robert Dalpe
Commissioner Jacob Dort
Commissioner Shane Levinson
Commissioner LaShay Marks

Staff Attendance

Corey Povar, Staff Liaison
Thomas Allen, Assistant City Attorney
Luke Tasker, Recording Secretary

Absent

Commissioner Nancy Dunn

Scheduled and Unscheduled Public Appearances

1. Recognition of SFC Ortega, for his assistance in organizing the Military Bound event - Comm. Levinson

SFC Ortega was unable to attend. Comm. Levinson spoke about his contributions to the event, and will ensure that he receives his commemorative certificate.

2. Recognition of Sandy Popovich, outgoing Commission Secretary, for her dedicated service to the Commission

Ms. Popovich was unable to attend, but will be recognized at the August 13 meeting.

Consent Agenda

3. Approval of the May 14, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes of the Military and Veterans Affairs Commission
4. Approval of purchase of new Commission nameplates
5. Approval to move the August 13, 2024, meeting to the Chandler Nature Center as part of planning for the Veterans Day event

Comm. Levinson motioned to approve the consent agenda; seconded by Comm. Dalpe. Motion carried 6-0.

Action Agenda

6. Selection of business card design
Move approval of selected sample

Comm. Dalpe motioned to approve sample three; seconded by Comm. Dort. Motion carried 6-0.

7. Proposed Amendment to the Military & Veterans Affairs Commission Rules of Procedure
Discussion and motion to approve an amendment to the Military & Veterans Affairs Commission Rules of Procedure to address excused/unexcused absences of Commission members.

There was discussion concerning the amendment's provisions. Comm. Marks raised the question of whether personal leave could apply to absences due to work; the consensus was that it would apply. Comm. Dort asked if attending meetings via phone would be acceptable. Mr. Allen advised that it was allowed under city rules, and the commissioners raised no objections to it.

Comm. Dalpe motioned to approve the amendment as written; seconded by Comm. Simon. Motion carried 6-0.

8. Approval of purchase of pop-up tent for outreach events
Move approval of purchase

Comm. Dalpe voted to approve the purchase; seconded by Comm. Levinson. Motion carried 6-0.

Discussion

9. Discuss the Senior Center's Military Appreciation Breakfast - Trevor Groth, Recreation Coordinator

Mr. Groth gave an overview of the Military Appreciation Breakfast, to be held on November 8, 2024. Comm. Levinson asked if the event will be publicized on social media. Mr. Groth advised that it would be publicized but that there was room to increase marketing; Mr. Povar advised that he would work with the Marketing team to further promote the event. Comm. Dalpe asked how much room there was for resource organizations; Mr. Groth advised that four tables would be an ideal number.

Mr. Groth asked for the Commission's assistance in locating a sponsor to provide food for the event. Chair Farabee requested that approval be added to the August agenda.

10. Discuss holding a 50th anniversary event for the ending of the Vietnam War in April 2025

Mr. Povar gave an update on a planning meeting he and Chair Farabee attended. Comm. Dalpe clarified that the event reflects the 50th anniversary of the fall of Saigon. He suggested that military vehicle groups be invited. Chair Farabee raised a concern over parking for a large-scale event. Comm. Marks advised that a similar event he attended drew approximately 2500 attendees.

11. Discuss communication regarding events such as the Memorial Day service at Valley of the Sun and Elks Lodge events

Comm. Dalpe advised that the Elks and other groups recently held Memorial Day events which the Commission was not informed of, although there were councilmembers in attendance. He advised that he has had difficulty in maintaining communication with these local groups. Comm. Dort suggested that the Commission might play a role in coordinating between these groups, and that they might be invited to meetings to further communication. Chair Farabee suggested that if the problem is an internal issue with these groups not promoting their events, it may not be the Commission's role to resolve those issues. Comm. Marks asked why the Commission does not put on a Memorial Day event; Comm. Dalpe advised that it was not on the list agreed upon the previous year.

12. Discuss progress on Veteran Resources brochure

Discussion ensued. Staff will compile a list of resources provided by the Commission, and the Commissioners will vote on which resources to include once the list is complete.

Briefing

13. Treasury Report - Luke Tasker, Commission Secretary

Mr. Tasker detailed the expenses from the Military Bound event.

Calendar

The next regular meeting will be held on August 13, 2024, in the Jackrabbit Room at the Chandler Nature Center, 4050 E. Chandler Heights Rd.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

Luke Tasker, Secretary

Carol Farabee, Chair