



County of Monterey

Military & Veterans Affairs Office



Meeting Minutes Military & Veterans Affairs Office (MVAO) VETERANS ISSUES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (VIAC) September 23rd, 2021, Thursday, at 3:00 p.m.

<p>1. CALL TO ORDER/ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call to Order: Vice-Chair Dan Presser • Roll Call to Establish Quorum: Jonathan Brown 	<p><u>Committee Members Present:</u></p> <p>United Veterans Council – Mary Estrada United Veterans Council – James Bogan MVAAC – Dan Presser City of Marina – Wesley Haye City of Del Rey Oaks – Rick Johnson City of Monterey – Nat Rojanasathira Veterans Families – Walan Chang Ft. Ord Retiree Council – Louise Goetzelt</p> <p><u>Ex Officio Members Present:</u></p> <p>State Senate Office – 17th District – Justin Tran State Senate Office – 12th District – Marisa Hernandez State Assembly Office – 29th District – Erica Parker State Assembly office – 30th District – Dominic Dursa U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs – Christine Brockman U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs – Grace Moreno VTC – Kurt Schake Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Foundation – Rich Garza Military & Veterans Affairs Office (MVAO) – Jack Murphy, Jonathan Brown</p>
<p>2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</p>	<p>Led by: Louise Goetzelt</p>
<p>3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND CORRESPONDENCE</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>4. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>5. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES (from May 27, 2021)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion to Approve with amendments: Johnson • Second: Rojanasathira • Unanimous, Ayes • Motion carries

6. BUSINESS ITEMS INFORMATION/ACTION

a. Affordable Housing

<p>i. VTC: General Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kurt Schake 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VTC was awarded a \$12 million grant from the State of California HCD Veterans Housing and Homelessness prevention fund. Lightfighter Village is now complete in its financial phase. They expect to break ground by the end of the year or early next year on that project.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VTC is also in the final phases of negotiations with the Federal Government on the Monterey Enhanced Use Lease. The plan is to build 40 or 80 units of affordable housing if that lease is obtained.
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b. Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Status Report

i. Veterans Cemetery Status	None given.
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c. Fundraising Status

i. Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rich Garza 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Foundation is assisting with the United Veterans Council golf tournament, the Heroes' Open, that's scheduled for October 23rd. They are also working to update their donor list.
ii. Donor Wall <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rich Garza 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Foundation received new information from State on how to get the proposal moved from the Monuments and Advisory Committee to CalVet for approval.

d. Ord Military Community

i. Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jack Murphy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reported the Retiree Appreciation Day was held on September 18th at the Weckerling Center.
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e. VA-DoD Clinic

i. General Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kintina Edouard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reported they are waiting for further guidance on the COVID 19 booster shot. Those who are considered immunocompromised are already eligible to receive the booster shot, and the clinic has been administering those. Anyone two years old and older who enters the clinic must have a proper mask on. If they need a proper mask, one will be provided for them.
ii. Pharmacy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jack Murphy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reported that he was able to get the pharmacy presentation and a letter from the MVAO office advocating for a pharmacy at the Gourley Clinic to Lisa Howard, the Director of Palo Alto Healthcare System, by way of James Boagan. Similar documents were also given to former Senator Sam Farr.

f. Municipalities

i. General Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nat Rojanasathira – Monterey 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monterey has a new website at Monterey.org. There will be a page dedicated to veteran services that the community will be able to access from the homepage.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rick Johnson – Del Rey Oaks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reported that the Farmers Market on Alvarado street is administering COVID vaccines along with booster shots, as well as conducting COVID testing on Tuesdays from 4 to 7 pm. Del Rey Oaks also got an MIA POW flag and is flying it at City Hall.

g. Military & Veterans Affairs Office

i. Monthly Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jack Murphy reported 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gave the MVAO report, please see attached.
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h. New Business

i. VIAC Cards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jonathan Brown 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Created four options of representative business cards. • A vote was taken to have the placement of the representative names on the front of the card, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 to 2 in favor of having the name on the front of the card. • A vote was taken to choose a card, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • option 1 had the majority vote.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kurt Schake 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteered to have VTC produce the cards
ii. Drill Sergeant Statue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Background was given on the topic.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • James Bogan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Said he would agree to have it placed at the MVAO office temporarily. And permanently placed at CCCVC at some point.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kurt Schake 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reported VTC Board and staff would be very interested and honored to have the statue placed at VTC.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jack Murphy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reported MVAO would also be very interested and honored to have the statue placed at their new Coastal Office.

7. ITEMS FROM MEMBERS

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

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jonathan Brown 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reported that the Governor's Executive Order to allow hybrid; in-person and virtual, meetings ends as of 9/30. A new Assembly Bill, AB 361, allows for hybrid meetings to continue if certain measures are met. Monterey County Health Officer, Dr. Moreno, issued continuing social distancing for the month of October allowing hybrid meetings to continue for one month.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Louise Goetzelt 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided further information on meeting remotely within Brown Act guidelines.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • James Bogan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 35th Annual Monterey Bay Veterans Wheelchair Big Fish Derby is scheduled for October 16th. • The Heroes' Open is scheduled for October 30th • The Veteran of the Year and Sam Farr Awards are scheduled for November 5th.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kurt Schake 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last Chance Mercantile is fully open Tuesday-Saturday 9 am to 4 pm.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jack Murphy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The VA clinic is doing flu shoots Monday-Friday, 9 am to 3 pm.

8. ADJOURNMENT: Dan Presser