



County of Monterey

Military & Veterans Affairs Office



Meeting Minutes Military & Veterans Affairs Office (MVAO) VETERANS ISSUES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (VIAC) October 28, 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: Chair, Mayor Ian Oglesby • 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 – Vice-Chair, Dan Presser City of Seaside – Chair, Mayor Ian Oglesby City of Marina – Wesley Haye City of Del Rey Oaks – Rick Johnson Veterans Families – Walan Chang Ft. Ord Retiree Council – Louise Goetzelt</p> <p><u>Ex Officio Members Present:</u></p> <p>Congressional Office – 20th District – Ben Uslar 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 VTC – Mike Stull 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: Erica Parker</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 September 23, 2021)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved

6. BUSINESS ITEMS INFORMATION/ACTION

a. FORTAG Presentation

<p>i. FORTAG Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael Zeller – Director of Programming and Project Delivery, TAMC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A presentation was given on the Fort Ord Regional Trail and Greenway project. Specifically, the Veterans Memorial Trail.
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b. Affordable Housing

i. Veteran Transition Center <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mike Stull	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gave an update on the Lightfighter Village project.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jack Murphy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gave an update on a rehab project for one of the existing duplexes through CDBG Funding.• Also gave an update for a rehab project for two other duplexes and Martinez Hall.

c. Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Status Report

i. Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jason Cameron	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Per a communication with Erica Chaney, the Manager at CCCVC, Jason reported, due to lack of a Groundskeeper staff member the cemetery was experiencing trouble fulfilling in-ground burial services.• He added that the Military and Veterans Affairs Office provided support by reaching out to other cemeteries, businesses, organizations, and community members to assist the cemetery by either volunteering or encouraging those interested to apply to the open Groundskeeper positions.• Of the individuals that did apply only one met the minimum qualifications.• Of the volunteers they were put in contact with, two have been at the cemetery assisting with installing headstones.• For in-ground services a Cal Vet employee from the Igo cemetery has been coming once a week on Thursdays so they are able to do two services on that day.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The committee was also informed of the passing of Mark George. Mr. George was the Operations Manager of the Northern California Veterans Cemetery at Igo, who helped to oversee operations at CCVC, and was pivotal in getting to in-ground burial services operational at CCVC.• Candy Ingram noted, "that he was wonderfully creative and very willing to get things done."• He will be missed by all that knew him.

d. Fundraising Status

i. Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candy Ingram	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Asked the representatives of the elected offices in attendance to note that she strongly suggests changing the Groundskeeper job posting's minimum qualifications to better reflect the actual duties of the job.• She thanked the UVC for holding the Heroes Open Golf Tournament and those playing in it as it's a fundraiser on behalf of the CCVCF.• Reported that the Foundation has hired an architect to prepare the required drawings for submission of the application of the donor wall.• She provided details on how to donate for the wall.• And informed the committee on the cemetery's Veterans Day event. It will be at the cemetery on Nov. 11th, starting at 10:30 am.
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e. Ord Military Community

i. General Update <ul style="list-style-type: none">• James Bogan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reported that the Retiree Appreciation Day event was poorly attended.
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f. VA-DoD Clinic

i. General Update <ul style="list-style-type: none">• James Bogan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Gourley Clinic will announce when they are going to be giving out the Moderna booster shot.• Volunteers are still needed for ambassadors and to drive the golf cart.
ii. Pharmacy Update <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jack Murphy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reported that he and Jason Cameron had a meeting with Rep. Panetta's legislative aide in Washington DC, the District Director Susie Bursa, and Ben Uslar, on October 18th to discuss the issues regarding not having a pharmacy at the Gourley clinic along with presenting them with potential solutions.

g. Municipalities

i. General Update <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wesley Haye – Marina	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reported assisting a veteran with a roofing issue.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chair, Mayor Ian Oglesby - Seaside	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reported that Seaside City Counsel informed him of inquiry into the rectangle parcel of land, and what, if anything it could be developed for. He went on to say the correct Seaside representative would contact Jonathan Brown at the Military and Veterans Affairs to further discuss the topic.

h. Military and Veterans Affairs Office

i. Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jason Cameron	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reported on Senate Bill 976, Caring for Survivors act of 2021.• Gave an update on the progress of the Military and Veterans Affairs office moving to the Coastal Building.• Let the committee know he is working with local and state elected officials on having a Veterans Home built in Monterey County.• Presented the MVAO monthly report, attached.
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i. New Business

i. November & December Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chair, Mayor Ian Oglesby	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The November meeting was canceled as it was scheduled on Thanksgiving Day.• December's meeting will be moved to December 16th
ii. AB 361	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Assembly Bill was reviewed.• Monterey County does meet the required recommendations to continue to meet by teleconference.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Louise Goetzelt made a motion to vote to continue to meet by teleconference.• Rick Johnson, second• Roll Call Vote: Unanimous Ayes

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion carries
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7. ITEMS FROM MEMBERS

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

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • James Bogan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VFW 8679 is having a spaghetti feed after the Veterans Day event at the CCVC. • Salinas is having their annual Veterans Day Parade
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mary Estrada 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marina American Legion is also having a Veterans Day event.

8. ADJOURNMENT: Chair, Mayor Ian Oglesby