



County of Monterey

Military & Veterans Affairs Office



Meeting Minutes Military & Veterans Affairs Office (MVAO) VETERANS ISSUES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (VIAC) June 22nd, 2023, 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, Presser • Roll Call to Establish Quorum: Vice-Chair Presser 	<p><u>Committee Members Present:</u></p> <p>MVAAC – Vice-Chair, Dan Presser MVAAC – Sid Williams UVC – Mary Estrada UVC – John Gay UVC – Shane Strong City of Del Rey Oaks – Rick Johnson Ft. Ord Retiree Council – Louise Goetzelt</p>
<p>2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</p>	<p>Led by: Sid Williams</p>
<p>3. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None received
<p>4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (From April 27th)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion: Sid Williams • Second: Louise Goetzelt <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roll Call: Vote <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ayes – Unanimous • Motion Carried
<p>5. APPROVAL OF REVISED BY-LAWS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion: John Gay • Second: Rick Johnson <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roll Call: Vote <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ayes – Unanimous • Motion Carried

6. BUSINESS ITEMS INFORMATION/ACTION

a. Affordable Housing

<p>i. VTC – General Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adam Errahebi reported 	<p>Housing Authority County of Monterey Voucher Change: Veterans are only provided with 2 months to secure housing before their voucher expires (down from 6). They can apply for extensions; this takes time to get approved and is only for Veterans with a documented disability who can demonstrate they have applied for units. We are putting together a meeting with Roxanne Wilson (County Homeless Services Director) and Meg Davidson at HUDVASH to discuss this topic further.</p>
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b. Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Status Report

<p>i. CCCVC Status Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adam Errahebi reported 	<p>Central Coast Veterans Cemetery: We are working with CAL VET and Department of Transportation on getting a sign placed on Highway 1 N/S.</p>
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c. Cemetery Foundation

<p>i. General Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candy Ingram reported 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Foundation is still seeking a list of requirements from CAL VET. • The Foundation must go through the State Architects Office for ADA compliance. The plans must be revised to include a ramp for access and handicap parking space. • We must obtain a “Right of Entry Permit” to construct the monument. We must deed the monument to CAL VET once it is finished. • We are hoping for it to be completed by Veterans Day.
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d. Ord Military Community

<p>i. Active-Duty General Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSM Traylor reported 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retiree Appreciation Day is on Saturday July 15th.
<p>ii. Ft. Ord Retiree Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Louise Goetzelt reported 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I attended The Retired Soldiers Council in person meeting in Washington DC. We are addressing 10 issues which I will distribute to everyone. • If you have a multi-area DoD issue you would like to submit. The deadline is December 1st. • They will be looking for replacements in October.

f. VA-DoD Clinic

<p>i. General Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adam Errahebi reported 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are working with Taylor at Representative Panetta’s Office to continue to address the Pharmacy issue.
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g. Municipalities

<p>i. City of Del Rey Oaks, General Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rick Johnson reported 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Fourth of July Parade is in Monterey (Alvarado St.) starting at 10:00AM. • The new Army Museum in Washington has a photo of my Father storming the hill at Omaha Beach on D-Day.
<p>ii. City of Monterey, General Updates:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None received.
<p>iii. City of Marina, General Updates:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None received.

iv. City of Seaside, General Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None received.
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h. Military & Veterans Affairs Office

<p>i. General Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adam Errahebi reported 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adam gave MVAO’s Monthly Activity report, see attached. • He explained the PACT ACT’s impending deadline for the one-year effective date in reference to filing disability claims. • Adam explained the recent hiring of Nancy Hood as the newest Veteran Services Representative. • The Veteran Service Officer position has posted. • Adam thanked the Committee for its support in the passing of the Budget Augmentation request. • The San Benito County contract has been approved to continue to provide services. • Explained several community events: Santa Clara Veterans Stand Down, 3D Printing Class, see attached. • Explained the movement of AB46 and AB684.
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6. ITEMS FROM MEMBERS

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

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alexis Garcia-Arrazola 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided an update from Asm. Addis’ Office: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AB 444: California Defense Community Infrastructure Program. Passed out of the Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs. Bill passed the Senate Governance and Finance Committee, is currently slated to go on the Appropriations on consent agenda.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isabel Meza 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided an update from Sen. Laird’s Office: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She will be the new District Representative for the Office. • 20 out of the 22 Bills the Senator introduced have moved forward to the Assembly. • Senator Laird will be in attendance at the Retiree Appreciation Day.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adam Errahebi 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Veteran of the Year nominations are due soon. Please reach out if you need help with the process.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Gay 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you know any Veterans in need for emergency funds, they can apply at TREA55.org.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Louise Goetzelt 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Retired Soldier for Life logo (for apparel) is now officially owned by the U.S. Army.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shane Strong 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Heroes Open is on October 28th. If you would like to participate or volunteer, please let me know! We are also taking donations for auction. • The new CALVET Secretary is an Arabic Linguist with a unique connection to Monterey County. We should schedule a tour with her when she decides to visit.

7. ADJOURNMENT: Vice-Chair Presser

MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS OFFICE



MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT

May 2023



12

Outreach Events

181

New Contacts



818

Phone Calls

383

Vet Rep Appointments

522 Claims Actions

258 Unique Veterans

221 Compensation Awards



44

College Tuition
Waivers valued at
\$296,970

New Disability Compensation Awards

\$274,881

Retroactive Payments

\$44,298

Recurring Monthly Payments



Customer Satisfaction Survey

93% Very Satisfied!

www.mvao.org

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