



County of Monterey

Military & Veterans Affairs Office



Meeting Minutes Military & Veterans Affairs Office (MVAO) VETERANS ISSUES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (VIAC) August 24th, 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: Chair, Oglesby • Roll Call to Establish Quorum: Chair Oglesby 	<p><u>Committee Members Present:</u></p> <p>City of Seaside – Chair, Ian Oglesby MVAAC – Vice-Chair Dan Presser MVAAC – Sid Williams UVC – Mary Estrada UVC – John Gay UVC – Shane Strong City of Del Rey Oaks – Rick Johnson Veterans Families – Walan Chang Ft. Ord Retiree Council – Louise Goetzelt</p>
<p>2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</p>	<p>Led by: Mary Estrada</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: Rick Johnson • Second: John Gay <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roll Call: Vote <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ayes – Unanimous <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion Carried

6. BUSINESS ITEMS INFORMATION/ACTION

a. Affordable Housing

<p>i. VTC – General Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erica Parker reported 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will be having a tour of Lightfighter Village after the meeting.
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b. Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Status Report

<p>i. CCCVC Status Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christine Odsen via Adam Errahebi reported 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is Rattle snake season. Be watchful. • Lindsey Sin was appointed as the CalVet Secretary. Keith Boylan was appointed as the Undersecretary. • Erica Chaney resigned effective 07/18/2023. They are in the process of filling the vacancy. • The Highway 1 sign is moving forward as CalVet and CalTrans have agreed to modify the language in their guidelines to approve the placement of a sign off of the Lightfighter exit North and South.
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c. Cemetery Foundation

i. General Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candy Ingram reported	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• James Bogan is the new President of the Foundation.• The donor wall is currently out to bid. The due date is September 5th. We are hoping to have it done by Memorial Day of 2024.• The Appreciation Wall is ADA compliant.
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d. Ord Military Community

i. Active-Duty General Update:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• None received
ii. Ft. Ord Retiree Council: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Louise Goetzelt reported	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attended the National Retiree Council meeting on August 1st. We will be meeting in person on or around the April 14th. Replacement nominations will be due in around 6-8 weeks. There are listing requirements for each position (rank, active, reserve, etc.). National issues will be due on November 1st.• The Soldier for Life apparel is available online at Shopmyexchange.com.

f. VA-DoD Clinic

i. General Update <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kintina Edouard reported	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Correction from last meeting: Grace Moreno has been appointed as the East Bay Operations Manager.• Flu season is upon us. There will be more to follow about the future availability of flu shots.• Jack Murphy stated that he has been in contact with one of the Chief of Staff members at the Palo Alto VA Hospital, Michael Kozal. He said they are tackling staffing issues for mental health providers at this time.• Kintina will follow up on if there is a plan to have an Intensive Outpatient Program at the Gourley Clinic.
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g. Municipalities

i. City of Del Rey Oaks, General Updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rick Johnson reported	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There were no incidents on Canyon Del Rey for the duration of Car Week.
ii. City of Monterey, General Updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mark Ackermann reported	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nat Rojanasathira has submitted his resignation as the City of Monterey representative for VIAC.• Mark Ackermann introduced himself as the prospective candidate. Mark recently separated from the United States Air Force and was recently hired by the City of Monterey as a Management Analyst in the City Manager's Office.• The City of Monterey is looking to expand its Skillbridge program.

iii. City of Marina, General Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None received.
iv. City of Seaside, General Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No updated at this time.

h. Military & Veterans Affairs Office

<p>i. General Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jack Murphy reported 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jack gave MVAO's Monthly Activity report, see attached. • Explained the movement of AB46 and AB684. Our office has sent in stacks of support letters to the Senate Appropriations Committee. • Explained PACT Act healthcare benefits for Veterans who served in a Combat or hazardous duty Zone. • Explained various event flyers, see attached. • A WWII servicemember Wilbur Mitts whose remains were found in the Pacific this year will be laid to rest on 09/11 at the Mission Memorial Park Cemetery in Seaside. We encourage all members of the Community to attend if possible. The event will start at the Chapel at 9:00AM with graveside service/honors at 10:00AM (or immediately after the Chapel Service). • We are currently staffed at 9 out of 11. We are slowly getting to full manning. • Veteran of the Year is on November 3rd at 6:00PM.
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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"> • Shane Strong 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is selling tickets for the rib cookoff. Please contact him if you want to purchase any. • The Heroes Open is on October 28th and is also looking for items for auction. We will also be looking for volunteers for gift bag stuffing prior to the Heroes Open.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adam Errahebi 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Veteran of the Year tickets are for sale in person at MVAO. Sid Williams and James Bogan will also have tickets for Sale. They are \$50 a seat.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • James Bogan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Sam Farr and Jack Steward awards are due to the United Veterans Council on September 27th.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Fishing derby is on September 16th if you are interested, please call (831) 901-0217.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Louise Goetzelt 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Central Coast San Francisco Bay Warrant Officer Group voted to disband and merge with the Sacramento Chapter. We will donate our remaining funds to the United Veterans Council to sponsor a team of Active-Duty members.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vice-Chair Dan Presser 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Monterey County Fair is next week. Veterans, Active Duty, Seniors and their families can get in for free on Thursday the 31st. There will also be a Senior and Veterans Resource fair in the Seaside Room that day.

7. ADJOURNMENT: Chair Oglesby

MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS OFFICE



MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT

July 2023



8

Outreach Events

218

New Contacts



590

Phone Calls

295

Vet Rep Appointments

415 Claims Actions



236 Unique Veterans

183 Compensation Awards

96 College
Fee Waivers

\$734,610

New Disability Compensation Awards



\$341,569

Retroactive Payments

\$86,579

Recurring Monthly Payments



Customer Satisfaction Survey

88% Very Satisfied!

www.mvao.org

Serving those who served

(831) 647-7613