Minutes of the TEMPE VETERANS COMMISSION held on Tuesday, February 4, 6:00 p.m., at the Tempe Public Library, 3500 South Rural Road, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present:
Jeremy Farr, Chair
William (Bill) Blair
Phillip Kraft
Michelle Loposky
David Lucier
Timothy Rogers
Alfred Trevino

(MEMBERS) Absent:
Jezreel Ramirez, Vice-Chair
Antonisha Dorsey
Abe McCann
Courtney Smythe

City Staff Present:
Robin Arredondo-Savage, Councilmember
Timothy Gomez, City Council Aide
Nikki Ripley, Communications Media Relations Manager
Octavia Harris, Deputy Human Services Director
Melissa Placencia, Administrative Assistant II

Guests Present:
Jana Lynn Granillo, 2020 U.S. Census Complete Count Committee

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order
Chair Jeremy Farr called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Agenda Item 2 – Public Appearances
None present

Agenda Item 3 – Review and Approval of the December 10, 2019 Minutes
MOTION: Motion to APPROVE December 10, 2019 minutes by Commission Member Bill Blair
SECOND: Motion seconded by Commission Member Phillip Kraft
AYES: Chair Jeremy Farr, Commission Members Bill Blair, Phillip Kraft, Michelle Loposky, David Lucier, Timothy Rogers, and Alfred Trevino
ABSENT: Vice-Chair Jezreel Ramirez, Commission Members Antonisha Dorsey, Abe McCann and Courtney Smythe
Agenda Item 4 – Chair’s Remarks
None

Agenda Item 5 – Introduction of newest Commission Members: Courtney Smythe (Arizona Coalition of Military Families), Nisha Dorsey (Military & Veteran Success Center), and Timothy Rogers (Veteran Health and Wellness Organization)

Agenda Item 6 – Census 2020 Presentation – Nikki Ripley
The City of Tempe's 2020 U.S. Census Complete Count Committee is responsible for developing and implementing a 2020 Census awareness campaign to encourage a response to the Census in Tempe. The primary goal of the 2020 Census is to count everyone once, only once, and in the right place. A full and accurate count of the residents helps ensure that the City receives Federal funding for transportation, housing assistance, and other needs. The Complete Count Committee utilizes local knowledge, influence, and resources to educate the community and promote the Census through locally based, targeted outreach efforts; provides a vehicle for coordinating and nurturing cooperative efforts between the City government, community, and the Census Bureau; and, helps the Census Bureau obtain the most accurate count of Tempe residents in 2020 through partnerships with the City government and community organizations. The Census Committee encourages Commission Members to share this information with their organizations and/or community.

Agenda Item 7 – Communications Discussion – Nikki Ripley
The Commission discussed more effectively communicating with Tempe Veterans regarding resources and events. Nikki suggested designating a point-of-contact that communicates with city staff and shares that information with Communications. Jeremy suggested creating a newsletter and sharing with the existing Veterans listserv. Nikki will provide the number of subscribers and provide that information at the Commission’s next meeting.

Timeline:
- Water bill insert:
  - Need as soon as possible
- Social Media:
  - Does not require as much time as the water bill but would need to be scheduled and/or have structure

The Commission discussed submitting Veteran related questions for the Tempe Forum; question(s) could be tied to the Census, identifying Tempe Veterans, providing resources etc. Tempe Forum is an online, town hall-style place for civic engagement. First-time users are asked for their name and home address. This confidential information is only used to identify statements from residents in and near Tempe, so that users know which statements are from local residents. Octavia suggested any questions submitted be vetted through Human Services Director, Naomi Farrell. Nikki also suggested adding a question to the Community survey.

Agenda Item 8 – Commission Planning for 2020
Timothy and Bill suggested submitting a proposal to Mayor and Council to identify city staff or a Commission Member as a communications point-person. Jeremy would like to review the existing Veterans page and embed a survey.

Agenda Item 9 – Attendance
None

Agenda Item 10 – Commission Member Updates/Announcements
None

Agenda Item 11 – Future Agenda Items – March 3, 2020 June 2, 2020
- Vice-Chair Election
- Survey Questions for Tempe Forum
- Veteran Website Review
Agenda Item 12 – Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Next meeting will be on March 3, 2020 June 2, 2020

Minutes Prepared by: Melissa Placencia
Reviewed by: Octavia Harris

Jeremy Farr, Chair
Tempe Veterans Commission
How You Can Take Part in the Census

EASY • SECURE • IMPORTANT

RECEIVE CENSUS INVITATION LETTER

Most Tempe households will get their Census invitation letter in the mail.

RESPOND ONLINE OR BY PHONE

ONLINE
It’s safe, secure and confidential. Your information and privacy are protected.
It’s user friendly offering you help screens and the ability to review your answers.

BY PHONE
Census enumerators can take your information from the convenience of your phone.

NEXT STEP

ONLINE

OR

BY PHONE

Answer the census in one of these languages:
English, Arabic, Chinese, French, Haitian Creole, Japanese, Korean, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, or Vietnamese. Details will be in your invitation letter.

IN-PERSON INTERVIEW
Census enumerators will visit residences that do not choose to self-respond.
They will be representative of the varied communities and languages.

IN-VITATION LETTER
March 12 – 20
Your invitation letter to respond online
March 16 – 24
A reminder letter

IF YOU HAVEN'T RESPONDED
March 26 – April 3
A reminder postcard
April 8 – 16
A reminder letter and a paper questionnaire
April 20 – 27
A final reminder postcard before census follows up in person

IN-PERSON INTERVIEW
Census enumerators will visit residences that do not choose to self-respond.
They will be representative of the varied communities and languages.

More information
www.iCount2020.info
To verify a Census worker, call the Dallas/Denver region office at 972-510-1800 or email dallas.rcc.partnership@2020census.gov.

How iCount for Tempe
Contact Tempe staff at census@tempe.gov