



Minutes Tempe Veterans Commission October 15, 2019

Minutes of the TEMPE VETERANS COMMISSION held on Tuesday, October 15, 6:00 p.m., at the Tempe Public Library, 3500 South Rural Road, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Troy Friedman, Chair
Jeremy Farr, Vice-Chair
William Blair
Phillip Kraft
Patricia Little-Upah
Jezreel Ramirez
Alfred Trevino

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Michelle Loposky
David Lucier
Abe McCann

City Staff Present:

Melissa Placencia, Administrative Assistant II

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

Chair Troy Friedman called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Agenda Item 2 – Public Appearances

None present

Agenda Item 3 – Attendance

Agenda Item 4 – Chair’s Remarks

- Troy recently resigned from Rio Salado College two weeks ago and is now part of the Reveille Foundation.

Agenda Item 5 – Review and Approval of the September 10, 2019 Minutes

MOTION: Motion to APPROVE September 10, 2019 minutes by Vice-Chair Jeremy Farr

SECOND: Motion seconded by Commission Member Patricia Little-Upah

AYES: Chair Troy Friedman, Vice-Chair Jeremy Farr Commission Members William Blair, Phillip Kraft, Patricia Little-Upah, Jezreel Ramirez and Alfred Trevino

ABSENT: Commission Member Michelle Loposky, David Lucier, and Abe McCann

Agenda Item 6 – 2019 Board and Commission Annual Report – 2019 Accomplishments and Goals

The Commission identified the following Accomplishments for 2019 and Goals for 2020:

Accomplishments (Past 12 Months):

- Presentation from the following community partners/organizations:
 - East Valley Regional Veterans Court (EVRVC), Judge Maxon and EVRVC Coordinator Teresa Vargas – January 8, 2019
 - CARE7's Veterans Services, Timothy Rogers – February 5, 2019
 - Veterans Furniture Center, Colonel Bruce Pagel – March 19, 2019
 - Future Commission Marketing efforts, Melissa Quillard – July 16, 2019
 - Shared Housing Opportunity Discussion, LeVon Lamy – September 10, 2019
 - Tempe Chamber of Commerce Collaboration, Anne Gill and Donna Kennedy– September 10, 2019
- Continued support of Tempe Community Salutes
- Draft Mentorship Program Proposal
- Submit a letter of support for the Fisher House
- Increase number of Veteran Supportive Employers to XX – *Need information from Commission Member Abe McCann*

Goals Related to City Council Strategic Priorities, if Applicable (Next 12 Months):

- **Strong Community Connections**
 - Organize a 2020 Veterans Day event
 - Create an award honoring Kyle Brayer
 - Create a quarterly Veterans Newsletter
 - Support Veteran Supportive Organizations from Tempe to be connected more with Skill Bridge

Agenda Item 7 – Military & Veteran Success Center Update – Chair, Troy Friedman

None

Agenda Item 8 – Commission Member Updates/Announcements

Commission Member Jeremy Farr:

- Recently met with the new East Valley Regional Veterans Court (EVRVC) Judge Phillips and staff to discuss the Mentorship Program Proposal. Judge Phillips recommended creating an exploratory group to address concerns of execution, accountability, budget and training.
 - The Commission discussed and agreed to modify the initial proposal to suggest creating an exploratory group

Agenda Item 11 – Future Agenda Items – November 5, 2019

- Southwest Veterans Chamber of Commerce Presentation, Tom Sheets – Executive Director
- Review and Approve 2019 Board and Commission Annual Report

Agenda Item 12 – Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Next meeting will be on November 5, 2019

Minutes Prepared by: Melissa Placencia

Reviewed by: Octavia Harris

Troy Friedman, Chair
Tempe Veterans Commission