

VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMISSION MEETING 14 October 2021, 1800-1930

Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order: 1800 by Chairperson Ralph Charlip

Location: Virtual via WebEx

City Liaison(s): Aaron Koenigseker - Aurora Learn Supervisor

A. Standing Business (Agenda at Atch 1)

- 1. Call to Order/Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance
 - a. Chairperson Ralph Charlip called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., offered the invocation and led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 2. Roll Call (Attendance at Atch 2)
 - a. Present Commissioners: Ralph Charlip, CW Fox, Cynthia Francis, Jeremy Lammon, Melissa Sayouthasad, Nathaniel Graff, Robert Chase
 - b. Absent Commissioner(s): Watik Aleem, Gregory Echols
 - c. Quorum: Yes
- 3. Review Agenda
 - a. Reviewed for Approval by Chairperson Ralph Charlip
 - b. Motion to approve the September meeting minutes by Cynthia Francis, seconded by Robert Chase, approved unanimously. (Meeting Minutes at Atch 3)
 - c. Amendments: None
- 4. Guest Speaker(s)
 - a. Carlos Peralta, United Veterans Coalition of Colorado. Had incorrect meeting date and time, was not present and will be rescheduled.
- 5. Public Comment(s) Maximum Three (3) Minutes per Person
 - a. No public present for comments
- 6. City Staff Report
 - a. Quarterly Financial Report (January, April, July and October)
 - 1) 31043 Veteran's Affairs Commission
 - i. Budget: \$3649
 - ii. Spent: \$777.80
 - iii. Remaining: \$2871, does not rollover into 2022
 - 2) 31044 Veteran's Affairs Projects
 - i. Balance: \$1294
 - ii. Transfers: \$500 (Veteran's Court)
 - iii. Remaining: \$794, does rollover into 2022



- b. Internal City Website for VAC Documents. Aaron will work with IT to create and provide access for all commissioners, administered by Aurora Learn.
- 7. Vice Chairperson Report (VAC Commission Roster at Atch 4)
 - a. No Report
- 8. Chairperson Report
 - a. December Elections. Chairperson Charlip asked members to check policies and bylaws and to be thoughtful on their approach to the coming elections. (INFO)

9. Projects

- a. Coffman Project (Charlip)
 - a. No progress from contractor since start in July for Veterans partnership with Adams County. Chairperson Charlip asked for documentation of progress. Contractor claims they cannot find veterans. The Housing Office is setting up meeting for next week between VAC and contractor to discuss lack of reporting and progress.
 - b. Commissioner Francis asked why they cannot find veterans and if they are talking to VA, HUD. Chairperson Charlip stated he did not know why they claim they cannot find veterans, that the contractor claims that they are in touch with the VA, HUD and other courses. Will ask for more details during the meeting. (OPEN: Charlip)
- b. Outreach, Social Media, Web Site (Sayouthasad)
 - a. Commissioner Sayouthasad stated that there is not much to report, that Chairperson Aleem went to the [VA] hospital to hand out flyers. She wants to get banner printed for the table and will draft a design to submit to the city. (OPEN: Sayouthasad)
 - b. Chairperson Charlip asked if there are additional flyers available in Aurora Learn; Liaison Koenigseker will check. Commissioner Sayouthasad asked for 50 more.
 - c. Commissioner Sayouthasad asked commissioner Francis about church outreach who replied due to COVID they are scoping back the project but are, looking for something on a smaller scale.
- c. VSO Engagement (Aleem)
 - a. Commissioner Aleem not present. No report.
- d. Promote Military Service (Fox)
 - a. Commissioner Fox stated that there are 17 high schools in Aurora, have reached out twice concerning the program, only two responded with interest. Mayor Coffman is interested in getting the city involved, such as having an open forum or time block to invite all schools to a central location like the AMC. Waiting to get a POC for a date.
 - b. Chairperson Charlip stated Mayor Coffman was a fair at the AMC with the city paying for it. VAC needs to come up with plan and attend. Next step is a general proposal for city council. Commissioner Fox will work with Liaison Koenigseker to submit proposal to council for potential spring event. The proposal may combine the idea with the Commission's JROTC collaboration project. (OPEN: Fox)



- e. JROTC Collaboration (Chase)
 - a. Commissioner Chase dropped off call. No report.

10. Liaison Updates:

- a. Aurora Defense Council (Echols)
 - a. Commissioner Echols not present. No report.
- b. Colorado Freedom Memorial (Echols)
 - a. Commissioner Echols not present. Chairperson Charlip stated Rick Crandall from memorial offered to do tour for VAC 11-13 Nov at 1500; 1600 is lighting ceremony for names on memorial, VAC can assist, turn off at 2000. If interested, let Chairperson Charlip know which date you want to attend. Also let him know if not interested.
- c. Armed Forces Treatment Court (Veterans Court; Aleem)
 - a. Commissioner Aleem not present. No report.
- d. UVC (Aleem)
 - a. Commissioner Aleem not present. No report.
- e. JCF (Chase)
 - a. Commissioner Chase dropped off call. No report.

B. Old Business

- a. Rotary Service Project Partnership (Lammon)
 - i. Vice Chairperson Lammon talked with Alicia at the Sate Veterans Home in Aurora at Fitzsimmons. He discussed several ideas fo r partnering with the Rotary Club and his wife's insurance company: bingo night (we bring prizes, 20-25 people), social evening (we bring snacks and such, cards), and purchasing items of the list of donations from Amazon they would like (all under \$20). Vice Chairperson Lammon will follow-up with the Veterans home to get answers to several questions. (OPEN: Lammon)
- b. SWOT (Charlip)
 - i. There were no comments (CLOSED)

C. New Business

a. VAC Inbox. The Commission has a public email address where community members can send questions. Liaison Koenigseker has access to the VAC email inbox and sent the backlog to Chairperson Charlip who responded. The commissioners agreed to handle this by each taking a month to respond to emails. Liaison Koenigseker will send emails to Chairperson Charlip or commissioner of the month. Vice Chairperson Lammon will create policy for November meeting. (OPEN: Lammon)

Adjournment

b. The meeting adjourned at 1842





- c. Next Meeting: 11 November 2021
- d. Future Meetings:
 - i. 2021: 11 November, 9 December
 - ii. 2022: 13 January, 10 February, 10 March, 14 April, 12 May, 9 June, 14 July, 11 August, 08 September, 13 October, 10 November

D. Tabled

- a. Veteran Population Study
- b. Certificate to recognize a veteran's passing

Meeting	Minutes	transcribed by	. Aaron	Koenigge	ker Cit	v Linicon
Meening	Minutes	transcribed by	y: Aaron	Noemgse	ker, Un	y Liaison

Approved: _					
Date:		 			

Attachments:

1. Agenda



Oct Agenda.docx

2. Attendance



Attendance.xlsx

3. Sep 2021 Meeting Minutes



September 9 2021 Meeting Minutes.pc