



TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2024
22400 Moneta Avenue
Carson, CA 90745
Veterans Park-Activity Room
6:15 PM

VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMISSION MINUTES

Commissioners: Chair Manuel Da Silva, Vice-Chair Brian Raber, Art Batucal, Robert Boyd, Roger Branch, Jr., Emmanuel Salomon, Al Seay, Karl Wilvert, Richard Woods, Jr., Thomas Woods

Alternates: Romeo Galeon (Alternate 1), Vacant (Alternate 2), Nemie Mosequera (Alternate 3)

Staff: Dara Sandoval, Recreation Program Manager; Kisheen Tulloss, Council Aide; Mikala Mulitauaoepele, Division Secretary

PUBLIC INFORMATION

"In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, if you require a disability-related modification or accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please call the City Clerk's office at 310-952-1720 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting." (Government Code Section 54954.2)

Any members of the public wishing to provide public comment for the items on the agenda may do so as follows:

- 1. Email: You can email comments to vacommission@carsonca.gov no later than 3:00 p.m. before the meeting. Please identify the Agenda item you wish to address in your comments. Your comments will be read into the record.*
- 2. Telephone: You can record your comments at (310) 847-3557 no later than 3:00 p.m. before the meeting. Please identify the Agenda item you wish to address in your comments. Your comments will be read into the record.*

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 6:16 p.m. by Commissioner Wilvert.

ROLL CALL

Present: Art Batucal, Robert Boyd, Roger Branch, Jr., Emmanuel Salomon, Al Seay, Karl Wilvert, Thomas Woods, Nemie Mosequera (Alt. 3)

Excused: Chair Manuel Da Silva, Vice-Chair Brian Raber, Richard Woods, Jr., Romeo Galeon (Alt. 1)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Wilvert led the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:20 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS

None.

PUBLIC ORAL COMMUNICATIONS ON AGENDA ITEMS

The public may address the Commission on any matters within the jurisdiction of the Veterans Affairs Commission or on any items on the agenda of the Veterans Affairs Commission prior to any action taken on the agenda. Speakers are limited to no more than three minutes, speaking once. Oral communications will be limited to one (1) hour unless extended by order of the Chair with the approval of the Veterans Affairs Commission. Due to the threat of COVID-19 (aka the "Coronavirus"), you are urged to take all appropriate health safety precautions.

None.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. JANUARY 22, 2024, VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Attachments: 01.22.2024 Minutes.pdf.

2. SPECIAL EVENTS

Attachments: Special Events 02-20-2024.pdf.

3. PARK ASSIGNMENTS

Attachments: VAC Park Assignments.pdf.

A motion to receive and file was moved by Commissioner Salomon and seconded by Commissioner Boyd. The motion passed unanimously.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

4. 2024 MEMORIAL DAY SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

Staff Sandoval confirmed that the Memorial Day Subcommittee meeting will be held Tuesday, February 27, at 6:15 p.m. at Veterans Park. During this meeting, Commissioners and staff will establish subsequent meetings.

5. 2024 VETERANS DAY SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

Staff Sandoval confirmed that the Veterans Day Subcommittee meeting will be held Thursday, March 7, at 6:00 p.m. at Veterans Park. During this meeting, Commissioners and staff will establish subsequent meetings.

6. VETERANS BROCHURE

Staff Sandoval presented a resource compile sheet for Commissioners to list resources they would like included in the brochure.

Commissioners recommended staff inquire with the Public Information Office, CalVet,

USCIS, and the Long Beach and West Los Angeles Veterans Affairs offices to gather resources and information to include in the brochure. Commissioners mentioned Battleship Iowa and local American Legions as sources of information and resources.

Staff Sandoval invited Commissioners to share any business cards or resources they had on hand at any point during the meeting and stated a mock-up of the brochures would be provided in the next meeting.

PUBLIC ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FOR MATTERS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

The public may, at this time, address the members of the Veterans Affairs Commission on any matters within the jurisdiction of the Veterans Affairs Commission. No action may be taken on non-agendized items except as authorized by law. Speakers are requested to limit their comments to no more than three minutes each, speaking once.

COMMISSIONER'S ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PARK REPORT

1. Batucal-Calas: No report.
2. Boyd-Carson: The park is often busy with activity. The issue of leaves piling up near the pool area has been addressed since it was mentioned in the last meeting. The flags are always up and illuminated.
3. Branch Jr.-Stevenson: The park grass is green, but the flag was not raised and there was a leak in the park office.
4. DaSilva-Foisia: N/A
5. Raber-Anderson: N/A
6. Salomon-Dolphin: No report.
7. Seay-Del Amo: Other than the large puddle in the park due to the rain, the park is in great condition, but the flags are not consistently raised.
8. Wilvert-Carriage Crest: No report.
9. Woods, Jr.-Dominguez: N/A
10. Woods-Mills: Work trucks' tire marks on the grass are due to ongoing work on the traffic signal near the park.
11. Galeon-Veterans/VSPC: N/A
12. Mosequera-Hemingway: The grass is green in the park, but leaves are piling up around the building.

Staff Sandoval addressed a question that Chair DaSilva had in the previous meeting regarding the Foisia Park flag and informed the commission that a service request had been placed to replace the rope to hang the flag back up. Staff Sandoval explained that the rope was entangled, so staff had to cut it to release the flag. The staff are now aware of the situation and are in the process of getting the flag and rope fixed and back up.

Staff Salomon inquired if the City would be purchasing new flags and addressed the current order of the flags; he stated the flags should be in the following order: USA flag (1st), POW flag (2nd), State flag (3rd)—Staff Sandoval to confirm the correct flag order.

STAFF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Staff Sandoval informed the commission that new flags were being purchased for all parks and reminded the commission to submit their paperwork at the end of the meeting (i.e., Business Card forms, Contact Information forms, Pay Authorizations, and

Veterans Affairs Brochure resources).

The commission and staff discussed the following:

1. The commission expressed a need for at least one permanent staff member from the Recreation Division to assist it. (The commission was neglected in the past due to the high turnover of Council Aides.)
2. Members need to be sworn in again. (Staff will coordinate oaths with the City Clerk's office.)
3. Appointment letters need to be issued to all commissioners. (Staff will follow up with the City Clerk's office to confirm who still needs a letter.)
4. Woods needs a shirt. (Staff Gardner to issue shirt.)
5. Donations to the Veterans Affairs Commission or subcommittees must be processed through the treasurer's office to ensure they are applied to the correct account. Staff Sandoval stated that our staff must also be made aware of any donations.
6. The budget for the commission and subcommittees is still pending approval and completion.
7. The blurb on the city website for the Veterans Affairs Commission may be used as a mission statement for the brochure. (Staff Sandoval to follow up and confirm.)

ADJOURNMENT

This Board/Commission/Committee is subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act. Among other things, the Brown Act requires that the Board/Commission/Committee agenda be posted at least 72 hours in advance of each meeting and that the public be allowed to comment on agenda items before the Board/ Commission/ Committee and items not on the Board/Commission/Committee agenda but are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board/ Commission/ Committee. The Board/Commission/Committee may limit public comments to a reasonable amount of time, generally three (3) minutes per person.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.