



MONDAY, MAY 20, 2024

701 East Carson Street

Veterans Park, Activity Room

6:15 PM

VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMISSION MINUTES

Commissioners:

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

Alternates:

Romeo Galeon (Alternate 1), VACANT (Alternate 2), Nemie Mosquera (Alternate 3)

Staff:

Tim Grierson, Recreation Superintendent, Dara Sandoval, Recreation Program Manager, Kisheen Tulloss, Council Aide, Mikala Mulitauaopele, 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

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present	Chair Manuel Da Silva, Vice-Chair Brian Raber, Robert Boyd, Roger Branch, Jr. (Arrived at 6:24 p.m.), Al Seay, Nemie Mosquera (Alternate 3)
Excused	Arthur Batucal, Emmanuel Salomon, Richard Woods, Jr., Thomas Woods, Karl Wilvert, Romeo Galeon (Alternate 1)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Da Silva led the pledge of allegiance.

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

A motion to receive and file the consent calendar was moved by Commissioner Raber and seconded by Commissioner Boyd.

1 [2024-0426](#)

SUBJECT:

APRIL 15, 2024, VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

2 [2024-0427](#)

SUBJECT:

SPECIAL EVENTS LIST

3 [2024-0428](#)

SUBJECT:

VAC_PARK ASSIGNMENTS

CONTINUED BUSINESS

4 [2024-015-VAC](#)

SUBJECT:

2024 MEMORIAL DAY SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

Commissioner Seay mentioned that attendance for the subcommittee meetings has been a challenge and reminded the Commission of the next meeting on Tuesday, May 21 at 3:30 p.m. Several commissioners volunteered to attend the meeting in support and to have a quorum. Chair Da Silva volunteered to speak at the Memorial Tribute, as volunteers from the Commission were needed. Staff Mikala to send a list of subcommittee members as a reminder for the Commission of which subcommittees they are on. The Commission voted and agreed that each commissioner may individually choose to wear their Veterans Affairs Commission polo shirt, or a suit to the Memorial Day Tribute.

5 [2024-016-VAC](#)

SUBJECT:

2024 VETERANS DAY SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

No update; Isaac to send out a notice of the next meeting once the time and date are determined.

6 [2024-017-VAC](#)

SUBJECT:

VETERANS BROCHURE

The Commission gave its final approval on the brochure. Staff Grierson confirmed the Commission's feedback was received and requested changes were made. Staff Mulitauaoepele to submit brochure for approval on staff end.

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.*

Resident and Korean Defense Veteran John Romias shared information with the Commission about a program called Honor Flight, which is available to qualified Veterans. He provided applications for the program, explaining that Veterans can apply for a free trip to Washington D.C. to tour the memorial sites, including accommodations and meals. The only cost is for a guardian, who would have to pay \$700.

Vice-Chair Raber provided Romias with a brief overview of the Veterans Affairs Commission and its purpose.

Staff Grierson asked Romias if his name was on the Veterans Wall and offered to show him where it was located after the meeting. Romias mentioned that he might have submitted his name and would like to view it after the meeting.

Vice-Chair Raber motioned to add the Honor Flight Application to the Consent Calendar; Commissioner Boyd seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMISSIONER'S ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PARK REPORTS

1. Batucal-Calas: N/A
2. Boyd-Carson: The field looks nice and the park is well attended; plenty of patrons at the pool and park.
3. Branch, Jr.: Noticed that flags were not up during the previous Sunday and brought it to the attention of the staff; asked for clarification on whether flags go up on Sundays. Mentioned he will be absent during next month's meeting.
4. Da Silva-Foisia: The neighborhood feels safe enough that residents frequently walk around. The flagpole issue was fixed and flags were arranged in proper order. Asked Staff Grierson if RC vehicles and drones are allowed on park premises.
5. Raber-Anderson: The park is closed for ADA improvements, but the flags are flying.
6. Salomon-Dolphin: N/A
7. Seay-Del Amo: The park is in great shape and the flags are up and arranged in proper order. Attended an event over the weekend where he met Maxine Waters and learned she is an advocate for Veterans; gathered information on more Veterans resources and would like to invite some informational booths to this year's Veterans Day Celebration. Informed the Commission that Veterans who own their own business can obtain a Business License for free.
8. Wilvert-Carriage Crest: N/A
9. Woods-Mills: N/A
10. Woods, Jr.-Dominguez: N/A
11. Galeon-Veterans/VSC: N/A
12. Mosequera-Hemingway: Many people are walking around, and renovations are being done in the main office, so park staff are currently located in the Aquatics office. At around 10:15 am, there were no staff on-site, and the flags were not up.

STAFF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Staff Mulitauaoepele addressed questions/status updates on oaths, appointment letters, and the Ethics training; to issue letters via email. Reminded the commissioners who have not yet done so, to take their

oaths with the City Clerk's office.

Staff Grierson introduced himself and informed the Commission that he was standing in for Dara Sandoval; confirmed that RC vehicles are permitted but drones are not allowed unless given permission; Notified the Commission about the upcoming Sharefest beautification project at Veterans Park on Friday, May 31, from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. The Commission was invited to attend to witness and support the project. Updated the Commission of several other projects such as the new marquee at Veterans Park and new epoxy flooring at Hemingway Park. Reminded the Commission of upcoming events and addressed Vice-Chair Raber's question on why Anderson Park was closed, explaining the closure was due to the creation of new pathways that are ADA compliant.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

This Board/Commission/Committee is subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act. Among other things, the Brown Act requires that the Board/Commission/Committees 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 i tems 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.