



County of El Dorado
Meeting Minutes
Veteran Affairs Commission

Department of Veteran Affairs
 130 Placerville Drive, Suite B
 Placerville CA 95667
www.edcgov.us/veterans
 Telephone: 530-621-5892
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Todd Smith, District I – Alternate John Poimiroo
 Tim Thompson, District II – Alternate Roger Reynolds
 Kurt Raffetto, District III – Alternate Jake Parsons
 William “Bill” Scrivani, District IV – Alternate Timothy “Tim” Page
 Vacant, District V – Alternate Phillip Houseworth
 Lance Poinsett, Secretary Ex-Officio
 Patricia Morello, Recording Clerk of Veteran Affairs Commission

Thursday, February 13, 2020 @ 1200 hours

Veteran’s Memorial Building
 130 Placerville Drive
 Placerville CA 95667

Public Testimony will be received on each agenda item as it is called. Principal party on each side of an issue (where applicable) is allocated Persons wishing to speak on a Consent Calendar item are requested to advise the Chair or Clerk prior to 8:30 a.m. The applicant (where applicable) is allocated 10 minutes to speak; individual comments are limited to 3 minutes; and individuals representing a group are allocated 5 minutes. Matters not on the agenda may be addressed by the general public during the Open Forum. Public comments during Open Forum are limited to 3 minutes per person. The Commission reserves the right to waive said rules by a majority vote.

All persons interested are invited to attend and be heard or to write their comments to the Veteran Affairs Commission in written correspondence delivered to the Commission at, or prior to, the public hearing. Any written correspondence should be directed to Department of Veteran Affairs, 130 Placerville Drive, Suite B, Placerville CA 95667. Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the El Dorado County Veteran Affairs Commission after distribution of the agenda packet are available for inspection during normal business hours in the public viewing packet located at the El Dorado County Department of Veteran Affairs, 130 Placerville Drive, Suite B, Placerville CA 95667.

The Commission is concerned that written information submitted to the Commission the day of the Commission meeting may not receive the attention it deserves. The Secretary Ex-Officio cannot guarantee that any FAX, email, or mail received the day of the meeting will be delivered to the Commission prior to action on the subject matter.

Veteran Affairs Commission Agendas and Minutes are available for viewing in the Veteran Memorial Building lobby at 130 Placerville Drive, Placerville CA 95667 and online <http://www.edcgov.us/veterans/commission>

CALL TO ORDER - PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG 1200

ROLL CALL

District	Present	Absent
I	Smith, Poimiroo	
II	Thompson, Reynolds	
III	Raffetto, Parsons	
IV	Scrivani, Page	
V	“Vacant”, Houseworth	

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME OF GUESTS

David Zelinsky, American Legion Post 119; Austin Wiswell; Tim Whalen VA Vet Center-EDVR-MFSG-VFW-FRA-Stand Down Committee; Patty Moley, HHSA, Asst. Director of Self-Sufficiency and Community Resources; Don Semon HHSA Director; Richard Todd, HHSA Program Manager; Ken Welch, VFW Post 9241; Lori Parlin, Board of Supervisor District IV; Greg Holt, Representative for Tom McClintock; Phoebe Carcot, Mission to Honor Veterans; Christine Wurzer, Folsom Lake College Veterans Center; Brigit Sujerpe, Folsom Lake College Veterans Center; Herve Leconte, MFSG-EDVR.

Lori Parlin, Board of Supervisor District IV spoke about revised policies which, from this point forward, will exclude Board of Supervisors presence at advisory meetings. We look forward to these advisory commissions and committees continuing their work and make recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. I learned a lot this last year and thank you all for welcoming and helping me feel connected. Thank you to Bill Scrivani, who has guided me and helped me understand the veteran community better.

Bill Scrivani has decided to resign; his replacement will be Ken Welch, VFW 9241 Georgetown. As part of the transition, the consent calendar agenda item will appear at the February 25th or March 3rd Board of Supervisor meeting.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR (All items on the Consent Calendar are to be approved by one motion unless a Commission member requests separate action on a specific item including moving items to or from the Consent Calendar and adopt the Agenda and the Consent Calendar for discussion. At the appropriate time as called by the Chair, members of the public may make a comment on matters on the Consent Calendar prior to action.)

CONSENT CALENDAR (Smith)

1. Chair of the Veteran Affairs Commission recommending the Commission approve the MINUTES of the regular meeting of January 9, 2020.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

Tim Thompson motion to approve consent calendar; Kurt Raffetto seconded motion, approved.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Officers (Smith) It was determined that the new guideline opinion is that the terms of officers are the same as the terms of Board of Supervisor. Previous month vote for Officers and Committee positions are, null and void. Officers and Committee members remain the same before the vote. Todd Smith-Chair; Kurt Raffetto-Vice Chair. All commission members in concurrence.

EX-OFFICIO REPORT – RECEIVE AND FILE (Absent excused)

COMMITTEE REPORTS – RECEIVE AND FILE

- **TOT (Transient Occupancy Tax)** (Raffetto/Scrivani)
 - Future funding – discussion (Raffetto) Budget discussion scheduled for March 3, 2020 and recommendation(s) outcome to continue to the Board of Supervisors. (Moley) reports that HHSA TOT funds distribution and payment processing to recipients is on schedule and going forward, a smoother process.
- **RULES** (Smith/Scrivani) (Poimiroo) reports on that the revised Bylaws have been adopted by the Board of Supervisors and are final (handout).
- **LEGISLATIVE** (Raffetto/Smith) Discussion about extended benefits for Blue Water Navy veterans that served in the territorial waters off Vietnam coast and Agent Orange exposure. Discussion about the MISSION Act which gives vets greater access to healthcare in VA facilities and the community. Big question to ask, how are these changes affecting the veteran? Is there a tracking metric from the VA? Common complaint heard from veterans are: healthcare provider not properly billing the VA; incurred billing debt resulting from out-of-network emergency healthcare, not knowing there is a 72-hour required notice to the VA for coverage. Future meetings, Tim Whalen will prepare a brief for the Commission.
- **TRANSPORTATION** (Sweatt/Thompson) Receive & file. Still recruiting volunteer drivers.
- **BUDGET** (Parsons/Poimiroo) No report.

- **EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT** (Sweatt/Houseworth) (Christine Wurzer/Bright Sujerpe) Extended thanks to the Commission for the continued support and recommendations for the TOT funding allocations. Folsom Lake College served 180 veterans at Los Rios campuses, majority attend the Folsom main campus. Key support from experienced staff ensures success in the transition challenge from military active duty to civilian/college student and use of the campus Veterans Success Center. We do lot of different things, we help them with a good education plan, equipment to meet accommodations, textbook grant, parking fee assistance, supplies, emergency relief/assistance, snacks and refreshments. Very helpful for utilizing their educational benefit; we also are a worksite host for the Federal Work Study Program.
- **SOCIAL MEDIA** (Scrivani/Poimiroo) Receive & file. (Patty Moley) Reports on Facebook Commission page, current page confusing to public; meeting with staff and Commissioner Scrivani for administrative revisions keep it a true Commission Facebook site.

COMMUNICATIONS' REPORTS – RECEIVE AND FILE

- **AD HOC** (Veterans Memorial Building – Veterans House Council) Not attached, will forward to commissioners.
- **AMERICAN LEGION SERVICE OFFICER** Receive & file.
- **FRIENDS OF THE VETERANS MONUMENT** (Poimiroo) Distribution of Annual Report and Board of Director contact list. Highlights of the report were the Veterans Day and Memorial Day ceremonies, Welcome Home Statuary, scholarships, Veteran of the Year budget and fundraising events.
- **EL DORADO VETERAN RESOURCES – A PERMANENT STAND DOWN**
- Tim Whalen reports future “Save the Date” Outreach events, Georgetown Military Family Resource Fair on July 18, 2020 and the El Dorado Veterans BASH & Stand Down on September 19, 2020. BASH acronym B=Bands & BBQ, A=Appreciation, S=Supportive Services, H=Hospitality, this event leading to be more interactive and to celebrate and appreciate our veterans and is inclusive to service homeless veterans in the upper parking lot. We hope to provide usual benefit and healthcare services, housing information and we encourage service groups to participate.
- Tim Whalen reports on 02/14/20, VHA informative event in the dining hall at 9:00am, all are invited.

NEW BUSINESS

- Annual Report (Smith) Discussion that the report will be available and shared at the end of the month.
- El Dorado County Policy E-7 Ethics Training discussion. (Smith) Cities, counties and special districts in California are required by law (AB 1234) to provide ethics training, El Dorado Human Resources is the department that local officials send their completed ethics training certificates. E-mail distributed to Commissioners on 01/30/2020 with information and hyper-link.

PUBLIC FORUM - GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Phoebe Carcot, report on the upcoming May 15, 2020 virtual event “Mission to Honor Veterans” which gives our WWII and Korea War Vets an opportunity to “visit” the Washington DC national war memorials, take a group photo in front of a “green screen”, experience the thrill of cheering crowds, experience the American Legion Freedom Riders, and watch the presentation of the flag to the oldest veteran, all without having to travel. We are asking for lots of volunteers to serve in many different levels, we can

assure you all that this is an experience of honor and appreciation. Tim Whalen challenged every veteran in the room to be a "Guardian" for the event.

- Lopez "Thank You" card (Raffetto) Thank you card from Rochelle Lopez and Family, thanking the veteran community for all their help during this sad time, extremely touched and grateful.
- Veteran Community & Service Providers Round-table discussion. (Shelley)
Save the date March 19, 2020; 1:00pm-3:00pm @ Veteran Memorial Building
At the request and interest for transparency and validity surrounding the TOT allocations and Mini-Grant awardees, we are in process to capture information and description of services, success stories and the eventual development of a resource guide. We are looking for your input on language for a general survey to help us establish the Veteran Community & Service Provider Round-table. At the moment we are planning for two semi-annual Roundtable meetings and possibly leading up to an annual summit.
- Stand Down 2020 Placerville, Save the NEW date September 19, 2020, Saturday, discussion on the event. (Whalen) Discussion and handout.
- Georgetown Veteran Resource Fair, searching for a NEW date, TBA. (Whalen) July 18, 2020, discussion and handout.
- David Zelinsky discussion about current fiduciary issues and asks questions on how to expand federal law to find a better way to assist homeless veterans, as it stands now; we sit idly by while the veteran continues to be unsuccessful with financial situations and wellbeing.
- Sierra Chaplaincy letter of appreciation and thanks as they serve those who serve us, dated January 2020.
- John Poimiroo reports the El Dorado Community Services District plans to honor El Dorado Hills' veterans by dedicating a new footbridge that crosses New York Creek. The ceremony is Saturday, February 15, 2020 at 11:00am, with emphasis that this ceremony prohibits political speeches or campaigning.
- Tim Whalen reports that the Vet Center staffing is at a hiring lull, maintaining quality of service with new and current clients.

NEXT MEETING LOCATION, DATE & TIME

Veterans Memorial Building, 130 Placerville Road, Placerville CA 95667, meeting on Thursday, March 12, 2020 at 1200 hours.

ADJOURNMENT 1315