

MINUTES
PLACENTIA VETERANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
APRIL 4, 2016
PLACENTIA CITY HALL

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:32 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Present: Ron Culler, Larry Crawford, Fabian Fragio, Wendy L. Moy, Antonio Rangel, Gordon Solomonson, Fred Visconti and Alice Martinez (6:42)

Absent: David Johnson and Roger Minami

Staff Present: Stephen D. Pischel, Director of Administrative Services

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – None.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS AND REPORTS – Committee Member Rangel shared that he has a new contact phone number.

Committee Member Moy shared information on an upcoming American Legion Post 277 event entitled “Celebrate America”. Event is scheduled for April 9, 2016 at the Legion Post on Bradford Avenue. All are invited to attend this special tribute.

MINUTES - **MOTION** by Committee Member Moy to approve the minutes of the November 2, 2015 regular meeting. **SECOND** by Committee Member Fragio. **MOTION CARRIED** 8-0-2.

ELECTIONS – **MOTION** by Committee Member Crawford to nominate Committee Member Culler as Chairman. **SECOND** by Committee Member Fragio. **MOTION CARRIED** 8-0-2.

MOTION by Committee Member Fragio to nominate Committee Member Rangel as Vice Chairman. **SECOND** by Committee Member Crawford. **MOTION** carried 8-0-2.

Recommended by Committee that Committee Member Minami be replaced due to lack of attendance. Staff Liaison Pischel will follow up to recommend replacement of Member Minami. Currently City is accepting applications for new members for this and other Committees and Commissions.

Voices Remembered – Liaison Pischel introduced Director of Community Services Sandra Gonzalez who presented proposal for special project with the Library of Congress. City is applying for a grant that would provide funding for a Veterans history Project which would include documenting interviews with local veterans. The project, if approved, would take place in the summer/fall of 2016. Director Gonzalez inquired if members of the Committee would be interested in participating as they have great knowledge and experience that could be shared. Several members expressed that they would be willing to support the project. Liaison Pischel

will provide additional information at future Committee meetings. Chairman Culler thanked Director Gonzalez for presenting the information and including the Committee in this project.

Legislative Updates of Veterans Programs and Services – Committee Member Martinez shared that the VA in Long Beach was working on a plan to improve the parking. Included in the plan is to have employees of the VA park at the Long Beach Marina. This should help in freeing up additional parking. Member Martinez announced that she has retired from the VA. Committee members congratulated her. Liaison Pischel shared information on the proposal Veterans Housing Project- Mercy Housing. Additional information will be shared at future meetings.

Overview of the 2015 Veterans Day Observance Ceremony – Committee members and staff reviewed 2015 event. Committee pleased with the overall outcome of event including key note speaker David Bradley, LT. Commander United States Navy, Ret. In addition, the Committee members were very impressed by student speakers from El Dorado and Valencia High Schools. The Placentia Community Chorus did an excellent rendition of the National Anthem and a patriotic medley. Bugler Matthew Mortensen, Eagle Scout and VHS Senior did a nice job as well. Chairman Culler and Liaison Pischel congratulated the Committee on another outstanding event.

Veterans Monument Expansion – Liaison Pischel reviewed monument expansion proposal previously recommended by the Committee. Letter soliciting support for fundraising was distributed to Committee members. Staff will be including this project in the 2016-2017 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Budget for partial City funding in addition to Committee fundraising efforts.

Burial Flag Program – No new applications at this time.

Meeting Schedule for 2016 – Liaison Pischel distributed copy of Veteran Advisory Committee meeting schedule for 2016. September meeting has been moved to second Monday, September 12, due to Labor Day.

Agenda Building – Committee Member Moy announced Flag Day event scheduled for June 14, 2016. Request to place on June agenda to finalize details.

Staff Comments – Liaison Pischel agreed that City staff would create/design “thank you for flying your flag” card for Committee members to use when a neighbor or resident had the American flag flying.

ADJOURNMENT - There being no more business, a **MOTION** by Committee Member Crawford to adjourn to a regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, June 6, 2016; **SECOND** by Committee Member Rangel. **MOTION CARRIED** 8-0-2. The meeting adjourned on April 4, 2016 at 7:58 p.m.

Stephen Pischel, Staff Liaison
Veterans Advisory Committee