

**Veterans Commission
Meeting Minutes**

July 8th, 2024

Present: Alfred Banfield, Donna Vaillancourt, Fred Baer, Brandon Jones, Stan Maupin, Mary Cravalho,

Staff: Ed Kiryczn, Alex Ayag, Samay Chhun,

Public Comments By:

Topic	Discussion	Actions/Next Steps
Meeting called to order & Pledge of Allegiance Recited	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm- Pledge of allegiance and roll call taken – 6 present	No Additional actions or steps
Approval of minutes & adoption of agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Minutes May 8, 2024, approved 6 Y/ 0 N- Agenda approved 6Y/ 0 N <p>*All arrived at 7:10 pm to make quorum</p>	No Additional actions or steps
Public Comments	John Helin- <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Hosting 100 years old birthday party for Veteran Frank at the Elks Lodge on July 24, 2024- \$20 admission for the event	No Additional actions or steps

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Veterans Commission Business	<p>Ed Kiryczun, VSO Operation Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stand Down event had a good turn out with 178 attendees: 150 Veterans 28 non-veterans - Out of 107 who registered only 23 showed up - 35.3% of veterans accessed legal services - Next stand down event underway for 2025 - Courts was a big success for this stand down event - Santa Clara County is planning on having their courts for their stand down - Looking at new process implementation to make 2025 Stand Down event a bigger success 	No Additional actions or steps																												
Veterans Commission Business	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>2023 TO 2024 YEAR END COMPARISON</p> </div> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Measure</th> <th style="text-align: center;">June 2023</th> <th style="text-align: center;">June 2024</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Difference</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Veteran Interactions</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1,441</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1,582</td> <td style="text-align: center;">141</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Retroactive received</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$2,321,558.86</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$4,248,935.38</td> <td style="text-align: right;">+\$947,662.04</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Monthly Assistance</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$264,487.27</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$374,814.65</td> <td style="text-align: right;">+\$102,165.51</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Claims Submitted</td> <td style="text-align: center;">606</td> <td style="text-align: center;">620</td> <td style="text-align: center;">+14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>College Fee Waivers Granted</td> <td style="text-align: center;">57</td> <td style="text-align: center;">77</td> <td style="text-align: center;">+20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>College Fee's Waived</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$445,455.00</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$601,755.00</td> <td style="text-align: right;">+\$156,300.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">143 Customer Satisfaction Surveys – 98% Satisfaction rate</p>	Measure	June 2023	June 2024	Difference	Veteran Interactions	1,441	1,582	141	Total Retroactive received	\$2,321,558.86	\$4,248,935.38	+\$947,662.04	Total Monthly Assistance	\$264,487.27	\$374,814.65	+\$102,165.51	Claims Submitted	606	620	+14	College Fee Waivers Granted	57	77	+20	College Fee's Waived	\$445,455.00	\$601,755.00	+\$156,300.00	No Additional actions or steps
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<p>Veterans Commission Business (Continued)</p>	<p>Stan Maupin (Update) Housing and homelessness initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Justin- Tunnels to Towers Presentation - Program started after 9/11. Help provide financial assistance to gold star families - Seeking to work with how their program will work with San Mateo County Veterans - Pay off family's homes, utilities, or any help with financial, (need to meet qualification) - Homeless veteran is something that need to be fixed and this housing is designed to solve this program - Currently have 12+ Veteran housing village in the US so far and continuing to be built 	<p>No Additional actions or steps</p>
<p>Veterans Commission Business (Continued)</p>	<p>Stan Maupin (Update) Housing and homelessness initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide long term affordable housing for Veterans get back on their feet and transition out - This is not a homeless shelter program. Strictly affordable housing for veterans who is at risk of becoming homeless - No children allowed in the village but will help those Veterans (mostly female) get back on their feet with housing situation - Need help from County identifying property that will fit within the program guidelines - Need support from mayor and city on building and zoning to make process much easier 	<p>No Additional actions or steps</p>

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Veterans Commission Business (Continued)	<p>No updates on Legislative- Keith Darby and Aditi Patel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- - Donna will be in a meeting with other commissioners from other counties about raising legislative issue <p>No updates on Mental Health- Brandon Jones and Mary Carvalho</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Trying to initiate and find someone that can be a leader of the group to go around county to take initiative about Mental Health outreach- LaShelle has been the go-to person to help with this especially with other counties regarding assistance to Veterans with Mental Health <p>Donna Vaillancourt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- August 20th deadline for Veteran Event for nominations- November 8th Veterans Award- Marcy currently looking for speaker	No Additional actions or steps
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Veterans Commission Business (Continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Artist has been chosen for downtown center veteran first responder memorial downtown government center- Interviewing for replacement veteran commissioner first week of august	No Additional actions or steps
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm- Adjourn approved 6 Y/ 0 N	No Additional actions or steps