



Alameda County Veterans Affairs Commission

Executive Meeting Minutes

Date: September 19th, 2022

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Location: Virtual (Zoom Meeting)

Meeting called to order 9:38am by Vice Chair Williamson

Roll Call: R. Forbes, D. Williamson, O. Farmer, J. Phair, Harrison (A)

Staff Present: Mariana Austin, Jonathan Montaño-Flores, Jennifer Stephens-Pierre

Motion to Approve Agenda 10/17/22:

(M) Williamson

(S) Farmer

Approved.

1. 2021 BOS Report

ACTION ITEM: ACVSO and Commissioner Williamson to provide Commissioner Farmer with previous presentations.

ACTION ITEM: Commission to update BOS Presentation PowerPoint.

2. 2023-24 Strategic Goals

Tabled for next meeting.

3. Potential Guest Speakers

Tabled for next meeting.

4. Sub-Committee:

Executive: Williamson

Membership: Williamson

Budget: Skip Phair

Outreach: Williamson

Bylaws:

NBVC: Farmer

5. Correspondence

None.

Meeting adjourned at 10:14 am.

Next Meeting November 21st at 9:30am via Zoom.



Alameda County Veterans Affairs Commission

General Meeting Minutes

Date: September 19th, 2022

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Location: Virtual (Zoom Meeting)

Meeting called to order at 10:15 am by Vice Chair Williamson.

Roll Call: D. Williamson, J. Phair, J. LoParo, O. Farmer, R. Forbes, K. Warner, G. Owens.

Absent: M. Gilmore, B. Rizvi (EA), L. Diaz, N. Harrison, B. Remoaldo, E. Gilmore.

Staff Present: Mariana Austin, Jennifer Stephens-Pierre, Jonathan Montaña-Flores

Motion to approve agenda for 10/17/2022:

(M) Phair

(S) LoParo

Approved.

Motion to approve minutes for General Meeting 09/17/2022:

(M) Owens

(S) Phair

Approved.

Public Comments: None

Staff Comments: None

Correspondence: None

Guest Speaker: None

Subcommittee Reports:

1. Executive Committee:

None.

2. Membership Subcommittee:

None.

3. Budget Subcommittee:

ACTION ITEM: Add Memorial Day Wreath in the amount of \$200 for budget request

ACTION ITEM: Division Secretary to check with ACVSO regarding business cards for the Commissioners/ Commission.

ACTION ITEM: ACVSO to order name badges for Commissioners.

4. Outreach Subcommittee:

ACTION ITEM: ACVSO to inquire about supplying promotional material for District 2 Veterans Day Lunch.

ACTION ITEM: Commission to have a table in the Veterans Wellness Watch 2022. Expected 100 attendees.

5. Bylaws Subcommittee:

6. **NCBVO Ad-Hoc Subcommittee:**

- a. Letter is awaiting Supervisor Carlson's approval.

7. **Nomination Committee**

- a. Voting of new Commission Chair to happen in November meeting.
- b. Nominated for Chair: Commissioner Farmer.
- c. Nominated for Vice-Chair: Commissioner Williamson.

Event Report

None.

ACVSO Report

None.

Veterans Day Events

ACTION ITEM: Commissioners to send Veterans Day events to Division Secretary to compile list to be sent out to Commission

1. Veterans Day @ the USS Hornet 2022, USS Hornet, November 11, 10:00am – 5:00pm.
<https://uss-hornet.org/calendar/veterans-day-the-uss-hornet-2022>
2. Tri-Valley Veterans Day Parade, Mains St, Pleasanton, November 06, 1:00pm.
<https://www.pleasantonmilitaryfamilies.org/mission.html>
3. Veterans Day Concert, Veterans Memorial Building, Pleasanton, November 6, 1:30pm – 3:00pm.
<https://pleasantonband.org/event/veterans-day-concert/>
4. Livermore VA Veteran's Day Breakfast (tentative), Livermore VA Hospital, November 10, 7:00 – 8:00am.
<https://www.vetsinenergy.com/vets-events>
5. Veterans Day Lab Ride 16 and BBQ, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, November 10, 11:00am – 1:30pm.
<https://www.vetsinenergy.com/vets-events>
6. Hometown Heroes Veterans Day Luncheon, Shannon Community Center, Dublin, November 9, 11:30am – 1:00pm.
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/hometown-heroes-veterans-day-luncheon-tickets-432066371147>
7. Other Veterans Day deals and discounts, not specific to the Bay Area:
<https://www.military.com/veterans-day/restaurants-veterans-day-military-discounts.html>

8. Alameda County District 2 Veterans Day Lunch, Fremont Veterans Memorial Building, November 12, 11am.
9. Veterans Day Concert, U.S. Air Force Band of the Golden West, War Memorial Veterans Building Herbst Theater, November 10, 7pm
10. Livermore's Veterans Day and Great War Remembrance, Carnegie Park, November 11, 10:00am – 2:00pm
11. Veterans Day Ceremony, Castro Valley Veterans Memorial at Castro Valley Community Center, November 11, 11:00am.
12. Veterans Day Concert, Veterans Memorial Building in Alameda, November 11, 11:00am.

Announcements

1. Assembly Bill 2509 has been signed into law: A Purple Heart recipient who is also a qualified disabled veteran, may request the Disabled Veteran (DV) License Plate fee exemption and issuance of Purple Heart License Plates in lieu of DV License Plates.
2. Senate Bill 837 has been signed into law: This bill repeals the requirement of a \$5 fee to be charged to have the word "VETERAN" be printed on the face of the driver's license or identification card, subject to certain requirements.
3. [Distinguished Veteran and Disabled Discount Passes](#): Honorably discharged war veterans who are residents of California with an overall / combined rating at 50% or greater service-connected disability, or were held as prisoners of war by forces hostile to the United States, or recipients of the Medal of Honor are eligible to receive the Distinguished Veteran Pass.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30am.

Next Meeting November 21st at 10:00am via Zoom.



Alameda County

**Social Services
Agency**

Faith M. Battles
Assistant Agency Director

Department of Adult & Aging Services

6955 Foothill Boulevard, Suite 300

Oakland, CA 94605

(510) 577-1900 / Fax: (510) 577-1965

battlfa@acgov.org

<http://alamedasocialservices.org>

Andrea Ford, Agency Director

Join us for Rebel
Kitchens Annual
Thanksgiving meal give
away next Thursday
Noon to 2pm. Please help
us spread the word to
those in need.



Thanksgiving Meal
GIVEAWAY!

*happy
thanksgiving*

2369 First St
Downtown Livermore

Andrea Ford, Agency Director

**Alameda County Veteran Affairs Commission
General Commission Meeting
Monday, November 21, 2022
Via Zoom Conference Call
MEETING MINUTES**

ACVAC Commissioner Present:

Diane Williamson (Chair)
Omar Farmer
James Phair
Greg Owens
Joe LoParo
Fred Jaffin
Michael Gilmore
Nathan Harrison
Kasey Warner

ACVAC Commissioners Absent:

Bakar Rizvi
Bernie Remoaldo
Ethel Gilmore
Ronnie Forbes

County Staff Present:

Mariana Austin
Clinton Taxdahl
Jonathan Montaño-Flores
Victoria Botts

Item	Discussion/ Recommendations
A. CALL TO ORDER	Meeting Chaired by Diane Williamson Quorum achieved.
B. PUBLIC COMMENT	None
C. CONSENT AGENDA AND MINUTES	1. Commission approve Commission meeting minutes Motion tabled until 12/19.
D. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS	1. Executive ACTION ITEM: AAA to request a Brown Act training for the commission for either January or February 2023. 2. Nomination The Commission will have a General Meeting in December to ratify the Chair and Vice Chair nominations.

Andrea Ford, Agency Director

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Membership 4. Budget 5. Outreach 6. Bylaws 7. NBVC-COL C. Young Campaign Initiative
E. EVENT REPORTS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Commissioners Owens and LoParo attended the Veterans Day event at Alameda on 11/11. There were over 200 people in attendance, and It had live music and lunch. 2. Commissioner Gilmore attended a Veterans Day event in Livermore on 11/11. 3. Commissioner Williamson attended Profiles of Courage, hosted by Swords to Plowshare on 10/10. 4. Commissioner Jaffin attended the USS Hornet event on 10/10. 5. Multiple Commissioners attended a luncheon to honor veterans hosted by Commissioner Valle on 11/12. 6. Commissioner Warner attended the Veterans Day event at the Castro Valley Memorial
F. ACVSO REPORT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Six new staff (Three already accredited) 2. Two of three remaining are accredited as of 11/07 3. Satellite Offices: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Fremont satellite service opening on 01/2023 b. Livermore satellite service TBD c. Dublin satellite service TBD 4. Conference attendance by staff – involvement in CACVSO Association (cacvso.org) 5. Technology / remote assistance 6. Continued alternate service methods which resulted from covid utilizing remote assistance 7. Ten outreach events so far in 2022 including webinars 8. Enhancing customer service overall 9. Veterans Treatment Court / Mentorship Program with Swords to Plowshares

Andrea Ford, Agency Director

	<p>10. Auditable claims (compensation / pension): 641 resulting in \$1,680,308 retro and \$3,682,162 monthly</p> <p>11. Fee waivers: 05/2021 – current: 487 Waivers = \$3,256,806</p> <p>12. DMV endorsement: 275 (26 of which became an auditable claim)</p> <p>13. Total visits including in-person, calls, emails, remote: 5,683</p>
G. ANNOUNCEMENT	<p>1. Commissioner Williamson will have office hours for veterans who need to start claims.</p> <p>2. Veterans Building in Alameda is having a Toys for Tots toy drive on 12/4.</p> <p>Next Meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Committee: 12/19, at 9am. • General Meeting: 12/19, at 10am.
H. ADJOURNMENT	Meeting adjourned at 11:20am.