



## **Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee**

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**May 15th, 2020 – 10:00 am**  
**300 N. Campbell – CITY 1, Main Room**

### **MINUTES**

#### **Members Present**

Lance Lehr  
Bruce Biegel  
Andrea Hutchins  
Reginald Daniel  
Dean Sanders  
Don Parrott  
Justin Rotti  
Laura Butler  
Hope Jackson

#### **Members Absent**

None

#### **Unfilled Positions**

none

- 1. Call to Order:** Meeting Called to Order at 10:01 am.
- 2. Roll Call:** *Quorum*.
- 3. Citizen Comment Period:** No Citizen Comment
- 4. Community Updates:** No Community Update
- 5. Discussion and Action to approve minutes of April 17, 2020:** Minutes approved.
- 6. Discussion and Action on absent or No Show VAAC Members:** Hope Jackson excused.
- 7. Discussion and Action to assign new members to Sub Committees:**
  - Laura Butler District 5 Assigned to Employment, Marketing / Outreach
- 8. Discussion and Action: Sub Committee Chairs update on assigned focus areas:**
  - Bruce Biegel updated the VAAC on the employment presentation to council. Key areas of focus included: Hiring Veterans, Transitioning Service Members, and

Military Spouses into meaningful employment. City Job Specifications should include language "Degree Preferred or related Experience".

- Hope Jackson presented the Veteran Rapid Rehousing program that includes the use of both Federal, and Local funds to house up to 25 Homeless Veterans.
- Lance Lehr presented an increase effort in Marketing to connect Ft. Bliss with the city of El Paso by including Ft. Bliss Logos on the City Webpage.

**9. Discussion and Action: Recap Strategy for brief to Council June 2020.**

- The Brief will occur during the working session on June 8<sup>th</sup> 2020 on Microsoft Teams.

**10. Discussion and Action: Present to Council to pass a Resolution to reestablish the VAAC. The VAAC will sunset December 31st, 2020.**

- Action: Tabled for next meeting

**11. Discussion and Action: Develop a timeline to rewrite the existing VAAC By-Laws.**

- By Laws will be written and sent to VAAC Members for review. Once reviewed they will be voted into approval or returned for corrections.

**12. Update from El Paso County Veterans Advisory Board.**

- New County Veterans Assistance Program Manager Cary Dwyer wants to focus on connection, communication, and collaboration. They are working hard on Social media and new programs to connect the community.

**13. Veterans and Military Affairs Update:**

- 8 Bridge Fellows currently working in the City and the El Paso Chamber of Commerce.
- IGSA talks continue.

**14. Announcements:** Laura Butler- Onward to Opportunity continues to operate during the stay at home orders.

**15. Next VAAC Meeting:** June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020 10:00 am City Hall, Main room 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor.

**16. Adjourn:** 11:31 AM

**NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC:**

*The Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee of the City of El Paso may retire into EXECUTIVE SESSION pursuant to Section 3.5A of the El Paso City Charter and the Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, Subchapter D, to discuss any of the following: (The items listed below are matters of the sort routinely discussed in Executive Session, but the Veterans Affairs Advisory Community of the City of El Paso may move to Executive Session any of the items on this agenda, consistent with the terms of the Open Meeting Act.) The Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee will return to open session to take any final action and may also, at any time during the meeting, bring forward items for public discussion, as appropriate.*

*Section 551.071 CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY  
Section 551.072 DELIBERATIONS REGARDING REAL PROPERTY*

Section 551.073 DELIBERATION REGARDING PROSPECTIVE GIFTS

Section 551.074 PERSONNEL MATTERS

Section 551.076 DELIBERATION REGARDING SECURITY DEVICES

Section 551.087 DELIBERATION REGARDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

NEGOTIATIONS

*Sign Language interpreters will be provided for this meeting upon request. Requests must be made to the Community Development department at phone number 915-212-1654 a minimum of 48 hours prior to the date and time of the meeting. Copies of these Minutes will be provided in Braille, large print or audiotape upon request. Requests must be made a minimum of 48 hours prior to the date and time of the meeting.*

POSTED THIS 14<sup>th</sup> DAY OF SEPT AT 12:55 BY PAUL ALBRIGHT.