

**SAN DIEGO COUNTY VETERAN ADVISORY COUNCIL
COUNCIL MINUTES**

Office of Military & Veterans Affairs
5560 Overland Avenue, Suite 310, San Diego, CA 92123

December 9, 2017

Meeting held at Veterans Museum and Memorial Center in Balboa Park (VMMC) from 9:35 am
to 11:33 am.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Helen Horvath, Chair, Member at Large; Anthony Stewart, District 1; Ted Kagan, Vice Chair, District 2; John Weaver, District 4; Carl “Rick” Huenefeld II, District 5; Jesse W. Robinson Jr., Member at Large; Nancy Owen, Member at Large;

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Wilfred Quintong, OMVA Director

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ron Stark, SDVC

1. Call to Order

The Veterans Advisory Council (VAC) meeting was called to Order by Helen Horvath, Chair

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Helen Horvath

3. Introductions

4. Approval of Minutes Previous Meeting

There was a motion by Tony Stewart to approve minutes on November 18, 2017. Motion seconded by Ted Kagan. Motion passes by all.

5. Chair’s Report

Chair Helen said effective January 2018, attendance will be tracked on updated sign-in sheet. By-Laws recommendations will be reviewed and determined whether the item is to be included in By-Laws or in a Procedure Manual.

6. Reports

- **Legislative** – nothing to report. Tony Stewart will submit the Legislative Report in Jan. 2018
- **One VA** – no report; (Dark in December 2017)
- **Chula Vista Veterans Home (CVVH)** – Nancy reported there will be a holiday party on December 8. Due to the success of the Veterans Walk and other

donations, the Foundation will be providing each of the 295 residents with a gift of \$35.

- **Office of Military & Veterans Affairs (OMVA)** – no report
- **Community Reports** – Golf 4 Warriors event on Saturday, 10 February 2018 located at The Crossing at Carlsbad. For more information check out www.golf4warriors.org
Vet Walk – was going to be cancelled this year but Tony has taken over and it will be done in 6 months.

Review of By-Laws

Helen Horvath continued review of By-Laws.

Remove Navy Region Southwest as a voting member

Following voting members voted yes to the revision on the By-Laws: Tony Stewart, Ted Kagan, John Weaver, Rick Huenefeld II, Jesse Robinson and Nancy Owen

Motion passed to remove Navy Region Southwest as a voting member passed by majority of voting members.

How long do you want to sit on the council?

2 term maximum discussed. Should members sit onboard for 8 to 10 years? As an organization you aim to hear new ideas, would like to incorporate volunteers, would like to have different demographics brought onboard. Members should aim to mentor potential future members. Would like to see a strong structure where there is a balance of younger and experienced members. Outside individuals would eventually want to compete for a seat at the council. Current members will like to resign. For example, members have been on council since 2010 and others have been on council for 12 years. A term limit should be in place. Current seats are grandfathered but any new members will be at term limits.

Following members voted yes to setting term limits: Tony Stewart, Jesse Robinson Jr., Ted Kagan, John Weaver, Rick Huenefeld II and Nancy Owen.

Motion passed in favor of setting term limits by majority of voting members. Term limits to be defined.

Extension of term up to 180 days.

Currently seats are left in limbo. If supervisor does not assign individual to fulfill vacant seat, chair will communicate with the Clerk of the Board and Supervisor responsible for the District. Maximum time the seat is to be vacant will be 3 meetings timeframe. Carry on a method to prevent vacancy for long period of times. Currently taking 6-8 months to fill seat.

Following members voted yes to extension of term up to 180 days: Rick Huenefeld II, Nancy Owen, Tony Stewart, and John Weaver

Military Advisors - do we add council advisors as non-voting members?

Advisors bring change and opens opportunity to members of the community such as providing internships programs and offering administrative work. Bringing outside people to participate and to speak in the council can add value to the organization. Advisory board members will bring a particular skill to the council and serve for a purpose. There will be difference in ex-officio and military advisors.

Following members voted yes to not adding advisors as non-voting members: Tony Stewart, Ted Kagan, Rick Huenefeld II, and Nancy Owen.

Motion passed by majority of voting members that ex-officio military advisors will be added as non-voting members.

Retain invited subject matter experts procedural

Military spouses are within the subject matter group.

Motion passed by majority of group that invited subject matter experts will be in the procedural manual.

Determine how an Intern is managed

Process will go through the OMVA and Wil Quintong will process interns as volunteers.

Motion passed by majority of group that interns/volunteers will be addressed with Wil Quintong.

Expanding knowledge about the Council

During the Women's Forum many individuals did not have knowledge of the Veterans Advisory Council. Discussed how the council can be expanded? Social media; "only one chance to make a first impression".

Motion passed by majority vote to table as procedural.

Partners for success, adding educational partners will be different from internship.

This will be added to Subject Matter expertise.

Motion passed by majority vote to table as procedural.

Community Outreach

Motion passed by majority vote to table as procedural.

Filling Council Seats

Motion passed by majority vote that it has been decided on and voted.

Representation of LGBTQ entered in By-Laws

Consider this in the future representation of the LGBTQ community and a variety of generations. Make recommendations to Supervisors to consider diversity in choosing appointees to the council.

We included subjected matter expert looking for an input and voice related to an issue from a demographic and diverse culture and standpoint. We need to add the word GENDER into the June 29, 2016 document.

Motion passed by majority of vote to insert the word "Gender" in section on diversity in current By-Laws.

Mission of the Council

Mission statement to be revised. What is the core of the council? We are trying to provide good advice to the Board of Supervisors in their support of programs that aid Military and their families. Point number one is to serve, point two and point three both are to support/consult supervisors and support the departments with the County. Lastly point number 4 is incorporate public outreach. We are an advisory council and would like to have a complete revision on the Bi-Laws and send them to Board of Supervisors for approval and input. The Advisory Council would like to create a County Ordinance and a basic statement of purpose. Send out another yes/no voting sheet to all members and start with the verbiage for the new bi-laws. How do we get the marketing aspect out and seek business – this will be tabled as procedural. First take care of the core issues and procedural issues afterwards. Procedural Manuel will be created and the vision is that it can be posted on online (with permission).

Motion passed by majority of vote to have Chair resend the core mission statement and work on format for By-Laws via e-mail.

A motion was passed by majority to consider Tony Stewart's comments/information/recommendations provided in writing to all members prior to meeting to be considered as his vote to any issues during his absence for January's meeting.

7. Adjournment @ 11:33am

J Reza