

**County of San Diego  
Health and Human Services Agency  
SAN DIEGO MILITARY & VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL (SDMVAC)  
Phone (858) 694-3222 \* Fax (858) 505-6961**

Via [Zoom Meeting](#)  
Meeting ID: 853 6198 7760  
Passcode: 578697

**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
November 13, 2021, 9:00 AM**

<b>AGENDA</b>
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1. Call to Order by Chair Jack Harkins at 9:14 a.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance led by Chair Jack Harkins.
3. Roll Call.

Present:

Griselda Delgado, District 1.  
Danny Jackson, District 3.  
Jack Harkins, District 4.  
Mia Roseberry, District 5  
Mark Balmert, Member-at-Large Seat 6.  
Jude Litzenberger, Member-at-Large Seat 9.  
Wil Quintong; OMVA Director, Ex-Officio

Absent:

Paula Jansen, District 2  
Philip Kendro, Member at Large Seat 7  
Tony Teravainen, Member at Large Seat 8.

<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>
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4. **Action Item. Authorization of Teleconferencing Meeting Option pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e).**

**Vote:**

Chair Jack Harkins opened floor for a motion on the item.  
Motion: Council finds that there is a proclaimed State of Emergency and that local officials have recommended measures to promote social distancing.  
Moved: Vice Chair Griselda Delgado  
Second: Member Danny Jackson  
Opposed: None  
Abstention: None  
Motion Passed.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

5. None.

**ACTION / PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**6. Discussion Item. Meeting Dates.**

Chair Jack Harkins opened consideration of change to the next regular meeting date, citing Council members' previously expressed interest in increasing public participation in meetings and suggested that a meeting date on a weekday, rather than a Saturday, could be more conducive to public participation. He also asked for deliberation that next meeting be a physical assembly on a Thursday, either January 6 or January 13, 2022 at 2:00 pm, in a central San Diego location; and for deliberation on any other dates that members may prefer.

Member Mark Balmert expressed willingness to meet at any date and time the Council may choose.

Member Danny Jackson agreed with seeking more public participation and said that moving meeting to January on a Saturday morning may meet that purpose; also agreed with January 6 or January 13 dates. He added that, as new to the Council, he is not that sure sufficient advance notice is made.

Member Mia Roseberry agreed with holding meeting on a weekday to have more public involvement; and stated that Saturday specifically is not favorable to public attendance.

Member Jude Litzenberger suggested that both weekday meetings and increased advance public notice can help increase public participation, particularly publicizing in the veteran community.

Vice Chair Griselda Delgado favored increasing notice on Saturday meetings to attract public; and stated agreement with weekday meeting dates, preferably Wednesday or Thursday.

Ex-Officio Wil Quintong agrees with dates January 6 or 13. He stated that the venue is the main concern for future physical meetings, and that the County Operation Center, which was used until the COVID closure, is difficult for public attendance due to locked gate that must be managed to permit attendance. He advised that the current advance notice of meeting dates and public display of agenda items on County website is to comply with the Brown Act, and that to widen awareness community groups should be provided advance notice to share with constituents.

Jack Harkins stated intent is not to utilize a gated security fence facility of the County offices; and suggested one past meeting place of the council, the Veterans Museum, which is available with ample free public parking adjacent, is near freeways that serve the downtown, and the travel is equivalent to going to the County's sites in central San Diego.

Ex-Officio Wil Quintong favored the Veterans Museum for a January meeting, where, in years past, SDMVAC meetings did have some public participation.

Chair Jack Harkins opened the floor for a motion that Council change the next regular meeting date to January 13, 2022, at 2:00 p.m., and that such a motion may be to meet at a different date and time.

**Vote:**

Motion: Council will change the next regular meeting date to January 13, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Moved: Member Jude Litzenberger

Second: Vice Chair Griselda Delgado

Discussion: Jude Litzenberger requested that remote access to attend and participate electronically also be provided. Jack Harkins noted that the location of the next meeting is not a part of the motion, the change of date and time. The place of the meeting would be announced with the regular advance notification, and remote electronic access would be continued.

Objections: None

Abstentions: None

MOTION PASSED

Griselda Delgado seconded the motion.

**7. Discussion Item. Priorities for attention and initiative.**

Chair Jack Harkins opened discussion of issues that are within the Council's purview, including needs of military and veterans' families, childcare, housing for active duty service families, veteran homeless population, and to consider priorities that can be agreed, and initiatives undertaken, particularly by establishing committees to examine conditions and make regular reports to the Council with findings and recommendations. He encouraged members to continue individual consideration post-meeting, to identify issues and conditions to cite in discussion at the next meeting for addressal by the Council.

Member Jude Litzenberger identified challenges for aging senior veterans: caregiver issues, actual nursing home facility availability; and cited difficulties for many involved in courts and jails, adding that AIS has a lot of resources for aging seniors.

Ex-Officio Wil Quintong added that in the last Board of Supervisors' (BOS) meeting, Aging and Independence Services (AIS) Office addressed the "Aging Roadmap" and Supervisor Jim Desmond stated he wanted veterans to be included in that roadmap. Will work in AIS to see what type of language to use for the County to address aging veterans in that roadmap. ( Notation to entry: "Aging Roadmap" is San Diego County's regional vision and framework for supporting healthy aging for people of all ages.)

Vice Chair Griselda Delgado expressed interest in mental health issues and the challenges for single parent veterans to make ends meet and favors Wil's idea to add to libraries' resources for needed help.

Chair Jack Harkins intends that item discussion and/or action continue on agenda of future meetings.

**8. Information Item. SD County Office of Military and Veterans Affairs Update.**

Wil Quintong's OMVA brief executive summary report – VetConnect in Tijuana at the Bunker were set to go. Border restrictions has been lifted, however there is zero contact with the Bunker via phone or email, Coordination is needed with the facility or Hector Barrajas who is not answering emails. Efforts continue and last option is to send someone there, this coming week.

On Nov 15, the Live Well on Wheels Mobile Unit will be at Borrego Springs Library. There will be Veterans Service Representatives (VSRs) with eligibility personnel, help with CalFresh flyers going around the community. In Dec, OMVA will go to Valley Center. Campo is a candidate for January, concentrating on rural areas first. VSR outreach resuming again in December, VSRs will go to designated libraries to meet veterans in those communities.

- 9. Information Item. Next Regular Meeting will be held on January 13, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., at physical location to be announced, and by electronic remote access.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Meeting Adjourned at 1000H.**

**ASSISTANCE FOR THE DISABLED:**

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