

Gustavo Orozco, Chair
Juanita Doplemore, Vice Chair
Ryan Antes, Commissioner
Sylvia Contreras, Commissioner
Ricky Fernandez, Commissioner



Carlos Gonzalez, Commissioner
Mike Shaknovich, Commissioner
Josh Smith, Commissioner
Kiniko Willingham, Commissioner

FINISHED AGENDA & MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Orozco called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Ryan Antes, Sylvia Contreras, Ricky Fernandez, Carlos

Present: Gonzalez, Kiniko Willingham, Juanita Doplemore and Gustavo Orozco

Commissioners Mike Shaknovich

Excused:

Commissioners Josh Smith

Absent:

19-001VA Recommendation to approve minutes for the Veterans Affairs Commission meeting held on December 12, 2018.

A motion was made by Commissioner Antes, seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Ryan Antes, Sylvia Contreras, Ricky Fernandez, Carlos Gonzalez, Kiniko Willingham, Juanita Doplemore and Gustavo Orozco

Excused: 1 - Mike Shaknovich

Absent: 1 - Josh Smith

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ricardo Mejia introduced himself as a case manager at the Century Villages at Cabrillo and an intern in the Health Department's Social Impact Division.

REGULAR AGENDA

CHAIR REPORT

Chair Orozco invited the Commission to attend Mayor Garcia's "State of the City" reception and presentation at the Long Beach Terrace Theater on Tuesday, January 15, 2019, starting at 5 p.m. He also reported that he and Commissioner Ryan represented the Commission at the Homeless Memorial service on December 21, 2018.

STAFF REPORT

Staff reported on a recent meeting with the management of Century Villages at Cabrillo (CVC). The Health Department's Office of Aging will be coordinating with CVC to do a focus group with case managers and service providers who work directly with the senior Veteran population at CVC. The data from this focus group will help to inform our strategic plan. Staff and Commissioners, as they conduct stakeholder interviews with Council members, will continue to seek funds to support a strategic planning consultant to assist with focus groups and other plan-related tasks.

19-002VA Recommendation to conduct the annual nomination and election of officers.

The Commission elected a new Chair and Vice Chair.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gonzalez, seconded by Commissioner Antes, to approve the election of Ricky Fernandez as Chair and Ryan Antes as Vice Chair of the Commission. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Ryan Antes, Sylvia Contreras, Ricky Fernandez, Carlos Gonzalez, Kiniko Willingham, Juanita Doplemore and Gustavo Orozco

Excused: 1 - Mike Shaknovich

Absent: 1 - Josh Smith

19-003VA Recommendation to discuss Veterans Commission Strategic Plan

Staff reported the Commission will proceed with a strategic planning retreat on Tuesday, February 19. The focus will be on developing recommendations based on the research and data collected so far. Staff and the Commission are requested to complete as many stakeholder interviews as possible with a cutoff date of February 1, to allow time for transcribing and basic analysis of the data in preparation for the strategic planning retreat. Discussion followed and Commissioners agreed to reach out to the interviewees with whom they have a connection.

This VA-Agenda Item was received and filed.

19-004VA Recommendation to discuss US VETS/Veterans Commission employment and education panel in March

The Commission discussed potential formats, content and locations for the Veterans education and employment panel in March. The subcommittee (Commissioners Orozco, Antes, Doplemore and Fernandez) will meet this month and report back at the February Commission meeting.

This VA-Agenda Item was received and filed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The point-in-time homeless count is taking place on January 24, and volunteers are needed. Commissioners were invited to sign up to volunteer.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No future agenda items were discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Orozco adjourned the meeting at 6:01 p.m.