

Ricky Fernandez, Chair
Ryan Antes, Vice Chair
Jesse Blanco, Commissioner
Sylvia Contreras, Commissioner
Juanita Doplemore, Commissioner



Carlos Gonzalez, Commissioner
Gustavo Orozco, Commissioner
Mike Shaknovich, Commissioner
Josh Smith, Commissioner

FINISHED AGENDA & MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

The Commission welcomed Jesse Blanco, the new Commissioner for Council District 1. Also present at the meeting: Ginger Lee, Collective Impact and Operations Bureau Manager, Gina Overholt, Veterans Commission Coordinator, and Sarah Green, Deputy City Attorney.

Commissioners Jesse Blanco, Sylvia Contreras, Juanita Doplemore, Carlos

Present: Gonzalez, Gustavo Orozco, Mike Shaknovich, Josh Smith, Ryan Antes and Ricky Fernandez

19-035VA Recommendation to approve minutes for the Veterans Affairs Commission meeting held on July 10, 2019

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

Yes: 9 - Jesse Blanco, Sylvia Contreras, Juanita Doplemore, Carlos Gonzalez, Gustavo Orozco, Mike Shaknovich, Josh Smith, Ryan Antes and Ricky Fernandez

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public were present.

REGULAR AGENDA

19-036VA Recommendation to review and discuss a revised draft of recommendations and strategies for the strategic plan

Four separate strategic planning community input meetings were held wherein Veterans considered the draft recommendations and strategies. Staff shared the major themes that emerged from these conversations, including advocacy, seniors, information clearing house, directly connecting Veterans to services, transition, employment and housing. These themes, in turn, informed the latest revisions to the draft recommendations and strategies. Ginger Lee, Collective Impact and Operations Bureau Manager, facilitated a review and discussion of the newly-revised recommendations and strategies and Commissioners provided their feedback.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Antes, seconded by Chair Fernandez, to bring this item back for future discussion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Jesse Blanco, Sylvia Contreras, Juanita Doplemore, Carlos Gonzalez, Gustavo Orozco, Mike Shaknovich, Josh Smith, Ryan Antes and Ricky Fernandez

19-037VA Recommendation to discuss Lone Sailor Recognition Ceremony on October 12, 2019

The Commission is partnering with Partners of Parks on the October 12 recognition ceremony. Staff prepared a TFF memo to invite the Mayor and City Councilmembers. Highlights of the ceremony include patriotic musical selections performed by the Long Beach Community band, and the 44-foot long model of the USS Long Beach. Staff asked Commissioners to attend the ceremony and Commissioner Gonzalez offered to record video.

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

Yes: 9 - Jesse Blanco, Sylvia Contreras, Juanita Doplemore, Carlos Gonzalez, Gustavo Orozco, Mike Shaknovich, Josh Smith, Ryan Antes and Ricky Fernandez

19-038VA Recommendation to discuss Veterans Day Parade and Celebration

Commissioner Orozco reported that the Veterans Day Parade Committee will not be sponsoring the Veterans Day Parade this year. A discussion followed.

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

Yes: 8 - Jesse Blanco, Sylvia Contreras, Juanita Doplemore, Carlos Gonzalez, Gustavo Orozco, Josh Smith, Ryan Antes and Ricky Fernandez

Abstain: 1 - Mike Shaknovich

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Gus Orozco announced the US VETS fundraising luncheon on September 20. He encouraged Commissioners to attend the luncheon by purchasing tickets. A limited number of sponsored tickets may also become available.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Sarah Green proposed that a presentation on Roberts Rules of Order and the Brown Act be agendized for the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Fernandez adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Note: A digital recording of this meeting will be available through the Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If a special accommodation is desired, or if an agenda is needed in an alternate format, please contact Gina Overholt 48 hours prior to the meeting at (562) 580-4035 or via email at Gina.Overholt@longbeach.gov.