



City of Prescott

Mayor's Veterans Commission

June 5, 2024 | 9:00 AM
Grace Sparks Activity Center
824 E Gurley Street
Prescott, AZ 86301

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Steve Woods called the meeting to order at 8:58 am.

2. ROLL CALL

Steve Woods – Chair
Dan Berryman - Member
Bryan Campbell – Member
Marty Collins – Member
Craig Furst – Member (Absent, VA Reps Shana Shatzer and Susan Yu in attendance)
Bryan Houbek – Member
Richard Otto – Member (Absent)
Edward Reiger – Member
Carl Sperling - Member
Jeff Timm - Member
Mayor Phil Goode – Council Liaison
Liz Boawn – Staff Liaison

3. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of the May 1, 2024 Mayor's Veterans Commission Meeting Minutes.

MOTION BY MEMBER MARTY COLLINS TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED; SECONDED BY MEMBER JEFF TIM: PASSED (7 - 0)

B. Update & Discussion Regarding Vet-Connect Neighborhood Town Hall Meetings - Steve Woods/Ed Reiger.

- a. The townhall meeting on May 21st was not well attended but Chairman Woods was thankful for the staff who were a part of making it a good event for those who did attend.
- b. Mayor Goode stressed the importance of communication and follow-up for these events.
- c. The location for the August town hall meeting will be Prescott Lakes. Members Berryman and Sperling both reside in this diverse neighborhood with over 2500 homes, making the potential for a big event.
- d. Member Reiger will reach out to find a suitable date and then communications can begin through both the Clubhouse and the HOA.
- e. Ms. Susan Yu, representing the VA, offered to provide an address list based on the database of veterans residing in the Prescott Lakes community, as another means of reaching out and spreading the word.

C. US Vets Update – Bryan Campbell.

- a. The graduation ceremony for the program was June 4th and it was celebrated with a band and a BBQ.
- f. There have been over 50 walk-ins since the Hub opened.
- g. The HUB has been successful in providing aid to 57 of 67 veterans served.

D. VA Update – Craig Furst/Steve Sample (Susan Yu and Shana Shatzer attending)

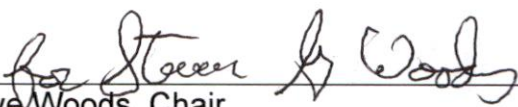
- a. The VBA is at the HUB.
- b. The PTSD Walk on June 1st was successful with 97 vets attending.
- c. Member Furst was attending the Flagstaff Pro Rodeo on June 6 and 7th for veteran outreach.
- d. The PTSD Awareness Equine Therapy and BBQ on June 13th from 11:00 am to 1pm.
- e. Other upcoming events the Prescott VA are attending include the Army Birthday Party June 14th, The Chino Valley Car Show June 15th, the Pact Act Claims Day Events on June 20th, July 11th, August 8th and September 5th, as well as the Prescott Rodeo on July 5th and 6th and HOPE Fest on September 14th.
- f. Member Sperling addressed the lack of buses for the Memorial Day Event. Prescott VA Rep Shana Shatzer explained it was due to the lack of any available drivers and will plan to have more for next year.

4. UPDATES

- A. Guest Richard Rodriguez of Embry Riddle's Veterans Affairs Office announced the change of Chancellor. He also provided information on the upcoming Gala Dinner on June 7th.
- B. Member Timm announced the issue with the VBA and illegal reporting of mental health status to the FBI, which led to an amendment which was proposed and passed to correct the wrong.
- C. Guest Beth Parknowitz, an employee and intern with the VA introduced herself and thanked the commission members for allowing her to attend.
- D. Member Berryman participated in a booth for the Kiwanas at the recent Home Show in Prescott Valley and conversed with the many veteran attendees, passing on encouragement for them to engage in many services. He announced the upcoming Kiwanas Kiddie Parade will take place on July 5th.
- E. Mayor Goode spoke about the recent town hall, and the reason for lack of attendance being a big part due to the location. He explained the importance of checking with the venue and checking with all the parties involved to ensure the potential attendees have been contacted.
- F. Mayor Goode is excited for the upcoming event at Prescott Oaks and suggested Pinon Oaks for a future event. He stressed the purpose of the commission as serving the Vets with programs and services, through outreach.
- G. Chairman Woods asked all members if they would be available for the next meeting on July 3rd of which most stated they would, so meeting will stand.

5. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Chairman Woods adjourned the meeting at 9:41 AM.


Steve Woods, Chair

ATTEST:


Liz Boawn, Staff Liaison