



City of Prescott

Mayor's Veterans Commission

September 4, 2024 | 9:00 AM

Grace Sparks Activity Center

824 E Gurley Street

Prescott, AZ 86301

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Woods called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

2. ROLL CALL

STEVE WOODS - Chair

DAN BERRYMAN - Member

BRYAN CAMPBELL - Member (Excused)

MARTY COLLINS - Member

CRAIG FURST - Member

BRYAN HOUBEK - Member (Excused)

RICHARD OTTO - Member (Excused)

EDWARD REIGER - Member

CARL SPERLING - Member

JEFF TIMM - Member (Excused)

3. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of the July 3, 2024, Mayor's Veterans Commission Meeting Minutes.

MOTION BY MEMBER MARTY COLLINS TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED; SECONDED BY MEMBER ED REIGER: PASSED (5 - 0)

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

- a. Member Berryman spoke on the recent townhall event at Prescott Lakes being a good event. The food provided was good and there were at least 30 residents in attendance.
- b. Chair Woods acknowledged the good cooperation from the venue as the reason for the event being successful.
- c. Mayor Goode asked the members if there was any follow-up from the event or comments provided. There weren't many comments but the military spouses really appreciate getting to learn about the benefits.
- d. Chair Woods announced that the new point of contact for the cemetery services would be provided for the next townhall event.
- e. Member Reiger will be asking for more flyers to handout at future events.
- f. A plan for the next townhall meeting will be announced at the next commission meeting.
- g. Member Collins asked for some history on the previous locations of the events.
- h. Guest Richard Rodriguez, Veterans Service Coordinator at Embry Riddle offered to have an event at the Lower Hanger if there was an interest. This

would cover some of the nearby neighborhoods without an HOA.

- i. Member Reiger brought up the address listings which could be pulled by the VA based on street names for future outreach and promotion of the events.
- j. Chair Woods restated that the successful events are those who have a homeowners association as they have the means to spread the word. He went on state the course of action would first be Pinon Oaks and then Hassyampa and they would work to cut down the amount of time between events, to be only two months.
- k. Member Reiger suggested utilizing HOAMCO for a listing of HOA's.
- l. Member Berryman was attending a meeting at their location on September 5th and would check on the possibility of a list.
- m. Chair Woods restated the set up for the next event will be announced at the next meeting.

C. Update and Discussion Regarding US Vets from Bryan Campbell.

- a. Member Campbell was not in attendance but had one update to share. The annual Stand Down in Yavapai County is scheduled for September 20-21st.
- b. Volunteers are still being sought and Chair Woods called for anyone interested to reach out to him for the contact information.

D. Update and Discussion Regarding a VA Update from Craig Furst/Steve Sample.

- a. Member Furst provided a packet for the PACT ACT and other VA benefits to the commission and explained how this packet is an important tool in the field.
- b. Member Reiger commented on the difficulties with getting the help on the compensation side of things and issues with the state losing track of records.
- c. Member Furst followed with the efforts being put forward to address the issues.
- d. Guest Richard Rodriguez spoke on his own experience getting help with benefits, specifically at the Veterans Connection Hub, as a good experience.
- e. For upcoming events, there is a Poker Run event this Saturday, a recovery month event on September 12th from 11am-1pm, and a new VA group is meeting at Rafter 11 every Thursday.
- f. For the Hope Fest event, the VA will have 6 tents and be available from 8am to 4pm, before the evening performances begin.
- g. Other events include a Vets social gathering on September 25th at 10am at Founding Father's and the Lake Havasu Stand Down on October 19th.
- h. The Canyon Run Senior Living Apartments are seeing some changes and it could displace many veterans living there.

4. UPDATES

- A. Staff Liaison Liz Boawn brought up the Veterans Parade as a topic for the next meeting. Chair Woods agreed on having more information at the next meeting.
- B. Member Sperling commented on the recent town hall event and was impressed

- that the spouses were invited.
- C. Guest Richard Rodriguez is the guest speaker at the September 11th Memorial Ceremony in Chino Valley. He also spoke on an upcoming Flag Retirement Ceremony on November 14th at 5pm at Embry Riddle.
 - D. Mayor Goode thanked member Berryman for his work on the town hall event.
 - E. Chair Woods reminded members he would be available after the meeting to give out any point of contact information.
 - F. Mayor Goode emphasized the Veterans' spouse element in outreach efforts, since many do not know what benefits they are eligible for. He was thankful for all who contributed to making the town hall event a great event.

5. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Chair Woods adjourned the meeting at 9:56 AM.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Steve Woods", written over a horizontal line.

STEVE WOODS, Chair

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Liz Boawn", written over a horizontal line.

LIZ BOAWN, Staff Liaison