



City of Prescott

Mayor's Veterans Commission

March 5, 2025 | 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 8:57 AM.

2. ROLL CALL

STEVE WOODS – Chair
DAN BERRYMAN – Member
BRYAN CAMPBELL – Member (Excused)
MARTY COLLINS – Member (Excused)
CRAIG FURST – Member
BRYAN HOUBECK – Member (Absent)
RICHARD OTTO – Member
EDWARD REIGER – Member
RICHARD RODRIGUEZ – Member
CARL SPERLING – Member
JEFF TIMM – Member

3. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

- A. Approval of the February 5, 2025, Mayor's Veterans Commission Meeting Minutes.

MOTION BY MEMBER ED REIGER TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED; SECONDED BY MEMBER JEFF TIMM: PASSED (7 - 0)

- B. Update and Discussion Regarding Vet-Connect Neighborhood Town Hall Update – Steve Woods/Ed Reiger.
- a. Member Reiger started the meeting with the status of the booking of the event at The Ranch. He was able to get in contact with Anthony Sotelo, the point of contact and the event has been approved with the board. The event location would be the Starting Point Church. There are two weeks that are being looked at for dates, in the second and third weeks of April. Once the date and time is finalized the flyer can be created and presenters can be invited.
 - b. Chair Woods asked if Ed could re-confirm the meeting spot as the board meetings are typically at the church by Third Shot Coffee. He stated there was no progress with the Hassayampa, so at this point there will be no event. The potential dates for April would be 16th, 17th, 23rd or 24th. After some discussion, the 24th was decided to be the first choice if approved by The Ranch. The benefit of this venue is they will send out multiple communications including a first and second push notification to those on their mailing list.

- c. Chair Woods asked members to approve the 23rd or 24th of April as the event date. Members approved of the two dates and Ed will be moving forward with the coordination. He went on to ask the members to look at the homeowner's association list and have some ideas of target neighborhoods to share at the April meeting. The typical timeline for planning and executing an event is 6 weeks.
 - d. Member Furst asked about the option of posting the event on social media. After some discussion about the size of the venue, he said we could plan to post the event for expanding the outreach to others.
- C. Update and Discussion Regarding US Vets from Bryan Campbell – Josh Lawton attended for Bryan.
- a. Guest Lawton shared some positive news regarding the successful early start to March, with housing secured for four veterans and jobs secured for two.
 - b. US Vets participated in the Chino Valley Job Fair on February 28th.
 - c. There was a VBA Benefits and Claims Clinic on March 6th from 10am to 2pm at The HUB.
 - d. They are pleased to see the Fort Whipple project on the move, with a 1-year turnaround time. The process of screening applicants will be selective to ensure they are a good fit for the new housing.
 - e. Member Reiger asked Guest Lawton to elaborate on who the housing was intended for. The housing is for low income and homeless veterans. There will be individual apartments like the current available housing and the new build will have elevators for its residents.
- D. Update and Discussion Regarding a VA Update from Craig Furst/Steve Sample.
- a. Member Furst announced the upcoming events including Coffee with the VA on March 27th in Cottonwood and the Vietnam War Veterans Day Recognition Ceremony on March 28th from 10am to 11am at the main flagpole at the VA in Prescott. He also spoke on some upcoming Stand Down events including Verde Valley on March 26th, a 2-day event in Page, AZ on April 23rd and 24th and the High Country Stand Down in Flagstaff on May 15th.
 - b. Member Reiger brought up the townhall event date and whether he should go back with April 16th as the potential date since the VA will be at the Page Regional Veterans Stand Down. He also asked if there would be any effect on the VA teams ability to attend any evening events with the current federal budget cuts.

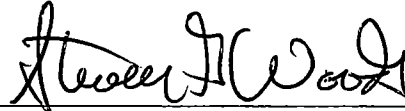
4. UPDATES

- A. Member Berryman spoke on the upcoming Kiwanis Auction on March 27th. There will be a lot of great items up for bid and the live auction event is always a success with a nice meal and experience.
- B. Guest Troy Alvarez introduced himself and was interested in learning more about the purpose of the commission. Mayor Goode welcomed him to the meeting.
- C. Mayor Goode thanked Chair Woods for his efforts and stated that although he was disappointed with the Hassayampa event not happening, we will move forward. He went out to state when there is a good direct point of contact then we can be successful with an event.
- D. Member Furst announced the annual Veterans Car Show would be coming up on

- April 26th, however Pam Winton would be handing over the running of the event to another entity.
- E. Guest Lawton from US Vets announced the upcoming Steps 4 Vets event on May 17th.
 - F. The Scottish American Military Society will conduct the official Memorial Day Wreath Laying and Remembrance Ceremony at noon on May 29th.

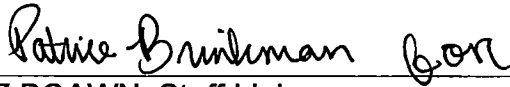
5. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Chairs Woods adjourned the meeting at 9:38 AM.



STEVE WOODS, Chair

ATTEST:



LIZ BOAWN, Staff Liaison