

City of Prescott  
**Mayor's Veterans Commission**



July 2, 2025 | 9:00 AM  
Grace Sparks Activity Center  
824 E. Gurley St.  
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  
RICHARD OTTO – Member (Absent)  
EDWARD REIGER – Member  
RICHARD RODRIGUEZ – Member (Excused)  
CARL SPERLING – Member  
JEFF TIMM – Member (Absent)

**3. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS**

- A. Approval of the June 4, 2025, Mayor's Veterans Commission Meeting Minutes.  
**MOTION BY MARTY COLLINS TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED; SECONDED BY EDWARD REIGER : PASSED (6 - 0)**
- B. Presentation and Discussion Regarding Vet-Connect Neighborhood Town Hall Update – Steve Woods/Ed Reiger.
- a. Prescott Canyon Estates is the planned location for the next event to take place at 3:00 PM on July 17, 2025. This information has been distributed in the neighborhood's newsletter.
  - b. The contact at Prescott Canyon Estates has been terrific to work with.
  - c. There is a challenge finding speakers for this event: Jeff Timm is not available but will provide cards and resources. Information on Cemetery services will be available. Confirmation of attendance from Arizona Department of Veteran Services is pending. Bryan Campbell from U.S. Vets is unavailable but will be sending a representative named Josh.
  - d. Chair Woods can speak on Veteran Benefits Administration, if necessary.
  - e. Outreach opportunities from the VA continue to face obstacles as there is a required 30 to 45 day notice for any event. Decisions for these instances are no longer made locally, instead they are deferred to Long Beach, CA. Chair Woods will attempt to call officials with the VA to see if exemptions can be made.
  - f. Due to the lack of confirmed speakers, it may be necessary to reschedule to provide a useful experience to Veterans and their dependents.

- C. Presentation and Discussion Regarding USVETS Update – Bryan Campbell
  - a. Member Campbell was not present and this item was not discussed.
- D. Presentation and Discussion Regarding VA Updates – Craig Furst
  - a. The Village Tower Apartments in Prescott are continuing to have a decent turnout, their next event will be July 16, 2025.
  - b. The most recent event in Quailwood had only 5 attendees. Member Furst will host one more event out there to determine interest.
  - c. The Pine Shadows division in Cottonwood remains well attended.
  - d. There is an outreach event pending in Prescott Village Senior Living, the date is to be determined.
  - e. The next outreach events with Las Fuentes Resort Village are scheduled for August 28, 2025 and October 23, 2025.
  - f. Hope Fest is scheduled for September 20, 2025. This will be a large event with opportunities for Veterans to connect.
  - g. The Yavapai County Stand Down is planned for September 26, 2025.
  - h. Approval is pending for the Navajo County Stand Down on October 24, 2025.
  - i. Outreach events at Canyon Run have had a large drop-off in attendance with no attendees at the last event.

#### 4. **UPDATES**

- A. The new construction at Fort Whipple is coming along, hopefully the ribbon cutting is in 9 months to a year.
- B. Jeff Timm will be guest speaking at the Kiwanis event taking place on July 3, 2025.
- C. The Kiwanis Kiddie Parade will be held on Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00AM. This event typically draws about 500 kids and could always use community support
- D. Mayor Goode pressed for thoughts on future targets for the Vet-Connect Town Hall event. Chair Woods thinks another event in September or October would be ideal and by planning now, the Arizona Department of Veteran Services could be locked in. Any location ideas can be sent to Chair Woods who will also try to gain a better understanding of the VA requirements for outreach events. The Hassayampa subdivision is not a viable option due to the number of hoops required to jump through. The Vet-Connect Town Hall at Touchmark Senior Living in May of 2024 was not well attended but would it be appropriate to revisit now?
- E. It's vital to share information on the cemetery resources as this can directly impact spouses and dependents. Paul Adkins is the new volunteer at the cemetery and he plans to attend the Vet-Connect Town Hall scheduled for July 17, 2025 then determine if he'd like to speak at future events.
- F. Emergency Room services at the VA are outstanding. There is a minimal wait time and the staff is friendly.
- G. The VA also offers resources for long-term healthcare that includes assistance from a social worker and potential onsite hospice.  
The Forty Vets meet for breakfast every week, members of the group will check with the group to see if they would be interested in hearing information while they meet over breakfast.

#### 5. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, Chair Woods adjourned the meeting at 9:46 AM.

*Steve Woods*

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STEVE WOODS, Chair

ATTEST:

*Patrice Brinkman*

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PATRICE BRINKMAN, Staff Liaison