



# City of Prescott

## Mayor's Veterans Commission

February 4, 2026 | 9:30 AM  
Grace Sparks Activity Center  
824 E. Gurley St.  
Prescott, AZ 86301

### MINUTES

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

In the absence of Chair Woods, Acting Chair Berryman called the meeting to order at 9:29 AM.

#### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

#### 3. ROLL CALL

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

#### 4. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of the January 7, 2026 Mayor's Veterans Commission Meeting Minutes.

**MOTION BY BRYAN CAMPBELL TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED; SECONDED BY EDWARD REIGER: PASSED (8 - 0)**

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

- a. Dan Berryman presented an update on Chair Woods' behalf: Steve Woods and Councilmember Garing met with Steve Sample, Executive Director of the VA last month and they felt the meeting was positive. Steve Sample outlined the updated requirements for outreach events, including a notice of 6 weeks in advance and a required audience of at least 30 veterans.
- b. The goal is to connect untethered vets to resources.
- c. Dan feels like the required 30 veterans in attendance could present a challenge.
- d. Prescott Lakes and Yavapai Hills community events were successful.
- e. Marty Collins visited Las Fuentes, which houses at least 50 veterans. Initial contact with staff seemed promising but he plans to connect with upper management to gauge an interest.
- f. Marty also presented the Town Hall idea to the local Knights of Columbus group and they were very receptive. A partnership could prove mutually beneficial as a way to connect with veterans and grow Knights of Columbus membership. Marty and Steve will follow-up with the organization on February 12, 2026.

- g. The American Legion in Prescott has over 500 members as well as a space to host an event. Carl Sperling is on the board and will present the idea of partnering to host a Town Hall.
- h. The next Chamber of Commerce Vet-Connect event is scheduled for May 4, 2026 at American Legion Post 6.
- D. Presentation and Discussion Regarding USVETS Update – Bryan Campbell.
  - a. The new units at Fort Whipple are of excellent quality with options for families as well as individual units.
  - b. A large concern with the available units at Fort Whipple and Liberty Pointe is the accessibility of transportation. To mitigate this, USVETS has partnered with Yav-A-Line to establish a stop at Liberty Pointe and hopefully another at Fort Whipple. There is consideration for lack of funding if the City of Prescott does not move to match the required amount of funding from the state for Yav-A-Line to operate.
  - c. USVETS met 19 out of 20 of their goals for the fiscal year and they were voted #1 for transitional housing.
  - d. Of the 23 units at Fort Whipple, 18 are spoken for. Interested parties should work with the HUD-VASH team.
  - e. There will be an updated list of items the facility still needs shared on Facebook with another list coming in April for the units that open in June. Donations can be brought to the Liberty Pointe location.
- E. Presentation and Discussion Regarding VA Updates – Craig Furst.
  - a. At this time, Craig Furst had no updates to provide as the VA continues to reorganize positions and divisions.

**4. UPDATES**

- A. Embry Riddle Aeronautical University will be hosting a R.E.D. BBQ this Friday from 11 to 1. The public is encouraged to stop by to support fundraising efforts.
- B. Craig Furst mentioned "Crewdogs," a lodging site exclusive to the military community.
- C. Guest, Don Schiller, was present and wanted to introduce himself as the Veteran contact at Touchmark retirement home. Don reminded the commission that there is plenty of space to host an affordable event. Don is a member of their veteran board that meets monthly and consists of 55-60 members.
- D. Councilmember Garing is looking forward to sponsoring a proclamation for Vietnam Veterans in March.
- E. Jeff Timm shared that there will be a joint virtual academy information session on April 18<sup>th</sup>, from 10AM to 12PM. This is a great opportunity for students in the state since there is no travel required.
- F. Flagstaff, Arizona will be hosting Navy Week from November 9<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> of 2026. More information will be shared soon.
- G, Jeff Timm also shared that the Commanders Jazz Band would be playing a free show at Yavapai College on February 7<sup>th</sup>, information on tickets can be found by contacting the box office of the Jim and Linda Lee Performing Arts Center.

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, Acting Chair Berryman adjourned the meeting at 10:08 AM.

  
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STEVE WOODS, Chair

ATTEST:

  
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PATRICE BRINKMAN, Staff Liaison