

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



April 1, 2026 | 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. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. ROLL CALL**

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

**4. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS**

A. Approval of the March 4, 2026 Mayor's Veterans Commission Meeting Minutes.

**MOTION BY RICHARD RODRIGUEZ TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED; SECONDED BY BRYAN CAMPBELL: PASSED (6 - 0)**

B. Presentation and Discussion Regarding Vet-Connect Neighborhood Town Hall Update – Marty Collins/Carl Sperling.

- a. Marty Collins met with a coordinator at Las Fuentes to discuss a town hall event at that location. They were enthusiastic considering they have a population of 50-55 veterans, not including spouses. Marty did not set a date so that the commission may decide. Potential for May.
- b. Marty met with the Knights of Columbus at their parish; they approved hosting an event with tentative approval from the Pastor. If proceeding, they would be willing to share the event with their parish and post on their bulletins. Potential for June.
- c. Both of these locations are ideal because they have a network to connect the event with and existing avenues of communication.
- d. Carl Sperling will reach out to the board of American Legion Post 6 for a potential event in July or August.
- e. Events at these 3 locations will allow time to then circle back to the HOAs again, building a steady bench of audiences and venues.
- f. Town Hall events should be planned for 8 to 9 weeks out, this allows the commission to give at least 6 weeks of notice to the VA. Events also need to take place during business hours to support the partnership.
- g. Steve Woods continues to re-establish and maintain contact with resources.

- D. Presentation and Discussion Regarding USVETS Update – Bryan Campbell.
  - a. There are 23 units that are already occupied, the next 80 units open in June and 42 of those 80 are spoken for.
  - b. Prescott is one of two sites with an existing hub in place dedicated to helping homeless veterans.
  - c. The new location in Prescott Valley will be hosting a grand opening on April 29<sup>th</sup>, at 2PM. This location will have regular business hours, a veteran talent specialist, and a full time therapist available for confidential and anonymous help with mental health.
  - d. This new location was already able to assist a veteran obtain a home when they were stalled by the purchasing process.
  - e. The Cottonwood hub will be opening in May of this year.
  - f. USVETS in Prescott served over 71,000 meals in 2025.
- E. Presentation and Discussion Regarding VA Updates – Craig Furst.
  - a. Member Furst was absent, therefore this item was not discussed.

**4. UPDATES**

- A. Richard Rodriguez mentioned that there are 120 Embry Riddle Aeronautical University students using their Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits and there are about 140 students using the VR&E benefit.
- B. Richard Rodriguez also mentioned he is attempting to re-vamp the campus memorial that honors graduates of ERAU that are veterans and have lost their lives.
- C. Planning for the Flag Retirement Ceremony in November has already begun.
- D. Councilmember Garing shared that Yavapai County issued a proclamation recognizing March 29, 2026 as National Vietnam War Veterans Day.
- E. Chair Woods announced that he will not be resigning his position as Chair of the commission. He looks forward to continuing to lead the group and extends his gratitude towards the commission members.
- F. The commission was reminded of the upcoming and required Open Meeting Law training.

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, Chair Woods adjourned the meeting at 9:54 AM.

  
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STEVE WOODS, Chair

ATTEST:

  
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PATRICE BRINKMAN, Staff Liaison