

**COMMISSION ON VETERANS AFFAIRS
MEETING MINUTES**

A Regular Meeting of the Veterans Affairs Commission was held at the Frost Bank Tower,
100 W. Houston, 19th floor Training Room, San Antonio, Texas 78205 on Tuesday October 15, 2013 at 3:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Cris Vieyra	Albert Hinojosa	Richard Jones
James Devno (absent)	Alfredo Dominguez (absent)	Mona Meikle (absent)
John A. Rodriguez	Juan Reyna	Stephen Spear
	Manuel Barajas (absent)	John Esquivel

CITY STAFF: Sandra Bagwell

Guests: None

1. Call to Order

Mr. Esquivel attended the meeting via phone and called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Members and City Staff recited the Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of the Minutes from the July 19, 2013 meeting.

Mr. Rodriguez motioned to approve the minutes and Mr. Hinojosa seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

4. Citizens to be heard

No one signed up to speak.

5. Updates and/or Discussion Items

- a. Discussion on the Medal of Honor Memorial groundbreaking ceremony.

Mr. Esquivel stated that Mr. Spear has done an outstanding job communicating with Mike Sculley. Mr. Spear stated that he has been working with Mr. Rodriguez to find a color guard and bugler for the ceremony and he will provide the names and numbers to Mr. Sculley so they can rehearse the ceremony. Mr. Spear also said that he has been in touch with the niece of one of the MOH recipients to let her know what is being done and may opt to skip the groundbreaking ceremony but will attend the unveiling. He will also contact one of the widows when it's time for the groundbreaking so she can attend if she is able to.

- b. Update on the purchase of a City of San Antonio Flag for the USS San Antonio.

Ms. Bagwell stated that funds were available and a 15' x 25' City of San Antonio Flag was purchased and shipped the week prior to the meeting. The XO promised to send a photo of the ship while it is flying the flag.

- c. Upcoming Celebrate America's Military Events.

Mr. Esquivel mentioned the Celebrate America's Military events sign up list and asked that anyone interested to be sure to sign up by October 21.

- d. Member updates.

Juan Reyna - District 7 said that he had nothing new to report.

Richard Jones – District 8 asked about the flag purchase and said that he didn't have anything else to add.

John Rodriguez – District 3 stated that Dr. Ricardo Romo would present the Faces to Names Vietnam Veterans at the Institute of Texan Cultures on November 1 at 10 am and it is free and open to the public. He also mentioned that the Alamo Silver Wings had a trailer in the Veterans Day Parade on November 9th and if anyone would like to, they would be welcome to ride on the trailer.

Steve Spear – District 10 stated that he received notice from his councilman that he would be relieved of duty. He said that he had served through three councilmen and it was time to step down. He also said that Councilman Soules had two volunteers and a decision would be made by the end of the year.

Cris Vieyra – District 1 said that he didn't have anything new to add.

Albert Hinojosa – District 4 didn't have anything else to add.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m. The next meeting will take place January 21, 2014.

*Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Bagwell, Office of Military Affairs*

*Please visit the Veterans Affairs Commission website: www.sanantonio.gov/oma
Audio recording is available at the Office of Military Affairs by written request to: sandra.bagwell@sanantonio.gov*

Attachments: None