

**COMMISSION ON VETERANS AFFAIRS  
MEETING MINUTES**

A Regular Meeting of the Veterans Affairs Commission was held at the Frost Bank Tower,  
100 W. Houston, 19<sup>th</sup> floor Training Room, San Antonio, Texas 78205 on Tuesday April 16, 2013 at 3:00 p.m.

---

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Cris Vieyra

James Devno

John A. Rodriguez

Albert Hinojosa

Manual Barajas

Alfredo Dominguez

Juan Reyna (absent)

Richard Jones

Mona Meikle (absent)

Stephen Spear

John Esquivel (absent)

**CITY STAFF:** Sandra Bagwell

**GUESTS:**

Mike Sculley

Tony Canez

**1. Call to Order**

Mr. Devno, Vice - Chair called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Members and City Staff recited the Pledge of Allegiance

**3. Approval of the Minutes from the January 15, 2013 meeting.**

Mr. Vieyra motioned for approval and Mr. Spear seconded the approval and after a small change, the members took a vote and unanimously approved the minutes.

**4. Citizens to be heard**

No one signed up to speak.

**5. Updates and/or Discussion Items**

- Welcome new member, Manuel Barajas – District 5

Mr. Devno introduced Mr. Barajas.

- Update on the Bexar County Medal of Honor Memorial

Mr. Spear gave a brief update on how the Medal of Honor (MOH) project came about and how it became funded by Bexar County. Mr. Sculley explained that he and Mayor Hardberger discussed the project and thought that this concept would fit in with the new Tobin Center renovation. Since Bexar County is using the research information that the VAC members compiled, Mr. Sculley thought that he would keep the members updated and involved to an extent with the project, even though it will be 100% funded by the County. Mr. Sculley also stressed that this project was still in the conceptual stages and there might be changes. Please see Attachment 1 for more information.

Mr. Devno asked about possible graffiti. Mr. Sculley said that he thought the risk was minimal due to the traffic this area and the fact that no one has defaced any of the memorials at Veteran's Plaza which is located just across the street from the Tobin Center.

Mr. Sculley asked if anyone knew how much money that the VAC members had already raised for their memorial. Mr. Spear stated that he thought that it was approximately \$2,300 and is being held at the San Antonio Foundation. He stated that he thought these funds could be used to add any additional MOH recipients in the future.

Mr. Vieyra asked what Mr. Sculley had in mind for the November 11 groundbreaking ceremony. Mr. Sculley said that they haven't planned anything yet and he said that he would like to involve the VAC in who to invite and what they think the ceremony should entail. Mr. Vieyra said that he was the district commander for all of the VFW's in San Antonio and he can use their resources if needed.

Mr. Jones stated that having the groundbreaking ceremony on Veterans Day, this event would compete with all of the other events that are usually scheduled. Mr. Sculley said that he realized this and they would have to set a time that wouldn't conflict with any of the major events. He said that they originally thought to have this ceremony at dusk so they could play taps at the end of the ceremony. Mr. Sculley said that this event can be changed if needed.

Mr. Devno asked about the possibility of an honor guard, Mr. Sculley reiterated that this event was still in the planning stages and would leave this option to the VAC if they wanted to be this involved.

Mr. Jones asked if Mr. Sculley could clarify what exactly he would like the VAC to do –whether it be just jotting ideas down and forwarding them to him or if a committee should be formed. Mr. Sculley stated that it was up to members.

- Request for donation of a City of San Antonio Flag for the USS San Antonio

Mr. Devno and Mr. Spear asked if there were funds available. Ms. Bagwell stated that OMA (Office of Military Affairs) was working on it, and trying to determine if it would come out of VAC funds, OMA funds, or if another department could chip in. Mr. Jones added that the Navy League and the Marine Corp League gave this ship a Texas Flag when it was first launched seven years ago.

Mr. Devno motioned to approve the purchase of the flag if funds permit. Mr. Spear seconded the motion. The members took a vote and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Spear asked if Dixie Flag could give a discount. Mr. Devno said that he would stop by and ask.

## **6. Member Announcements**

Mr. Dominguez stated that his councilman, Mr. Lopez had nothing for the members to discuss at this time.

Mr. Spear commented that he spoke to Mr. Davis regarding the letter he sent about filling out a form at the airport parking garage. He commented that both the parking at the Airport and the City owned parking garages downtown follow the same the same sheet of music, but the interpretation is different. He was going to talk to the parking lady at the airport to see what could be done to speed up the process.

Mr. Hinojosa said that he hoped that the MOH memorial would follow the ADA guidelines. Mr. Devno commented that Mr. Sculley said that it would.

Mr. Vieyra said that he has nothing new to report.

Mr. Barajas stated the he also had nothing to report from District 5.

Mr. Hinojosa stated that there wasn't going to be a fireworks display at the Fort Sam Houston for Fiesta this year.

Mr. Jones stated commented that military's participation with Fiesta would be cut back quite a bit this year. He stated that the Marine Corp Fiesta Reception would still be held but the Marine's at the Alamo event will not have the Marine Band in attendance. He stated that he wasn't sure if the other military ambassadors had medals this year, the Marines did have a medals. It was also mentioned that the Marine Corp band and the Navy band would not participate in Fiesta parades either due to the cutbacks.

Mr. Devno stated that the National Guard Fiesta would be held on April 24 and stated that it was a nice family event with rides for the kids, music, free parking. And it was less costly than the events downtown.

Mr. Devno also stated that he and Mr. Esquivel met with Councilwoman (CW) Taylor regarding the Veterans Outreach and Transition Center at the old Good Samaritan Hospital building a couple of months ago. He stated that funds were found to renovate the building located next to St. Philips and the renovations would start soon. Mr. Devno went on to say that CW Taylor nominated him to be a member of the board for this program.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m. The next meeting will take place July 16, 2013 at 3:00 p.m.

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

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

*Attachments: Medal of Honor Memorial River Portal Presentation of proposed design*

# MEDAL OF HONOR MEMORIAL RIVER PORTAL

---

Design and Development Update  
Michael J. Sculley  
Bexar County Community Venues Program

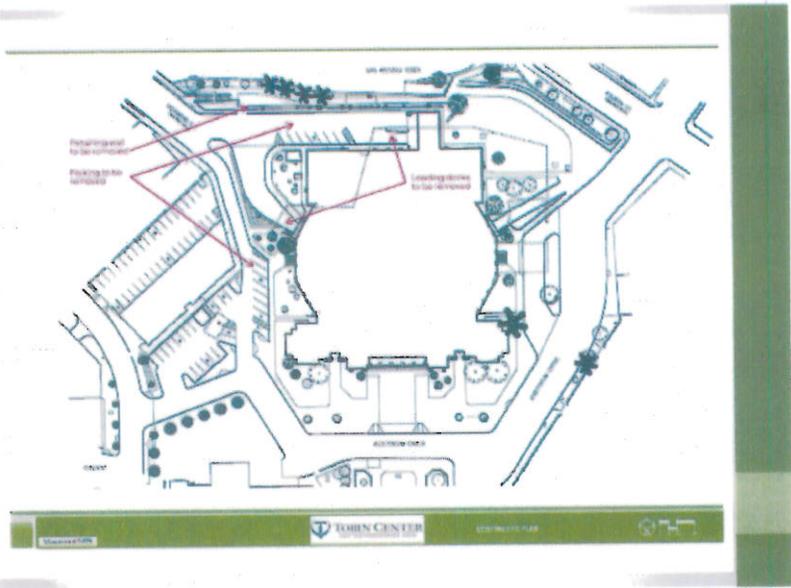
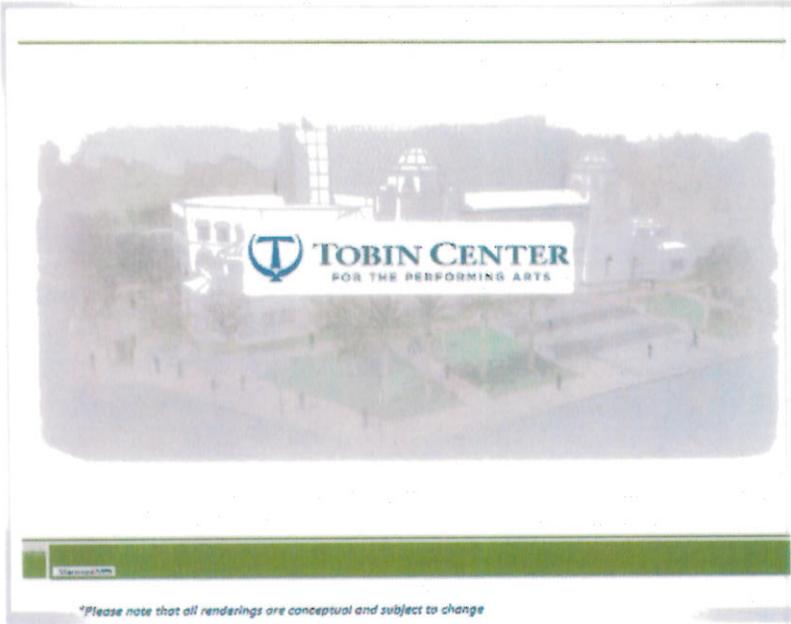
April 16, 2013

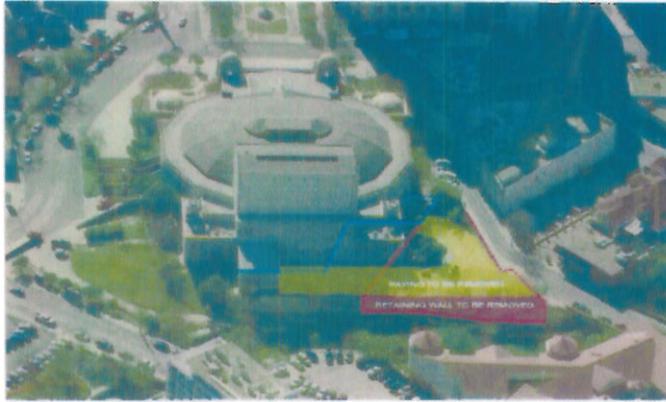
*\*Please note that all renderings are conceptual and subject to change*

## MOH River Portal Update

### AGENDA

- Introductions
- Project Status & Design Update
- Proposed Layout of Medal of Honor Recipients
- Project Timeline
- How Can We Help?





WALTERS END BUILDING  
REPLACING WALL TO BE REMOVED

WALTERS END



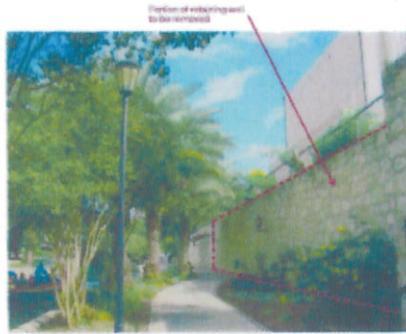
ESTABLISHED 1971



WALTERS END



ESTABLISHED 1971



March 2019



22766 271 4216 300 300



March 2019



CONCEPTUAL RENDERING

*\*Please note that all renderings are conceptual and subject to change*



November 2016

TOBIN CENTER

CONCEPTUAL PERSPECTIVE

*\*Please note that all renderings are conceptual and subject to change*



November 2016

TOBIN CENTER

CONCEPTUAL PERSPECTIVE

*\*Please note that all renderings are conceptual and subject to change*



Maximizing 4/16/16

TOBIN CENTER  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

CONCEPTUAL PERSPECTIVE

*\*Please note that all renderings are conceptual and subject to change*



Maximizing 4/16/16

TOBIN CENTER  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

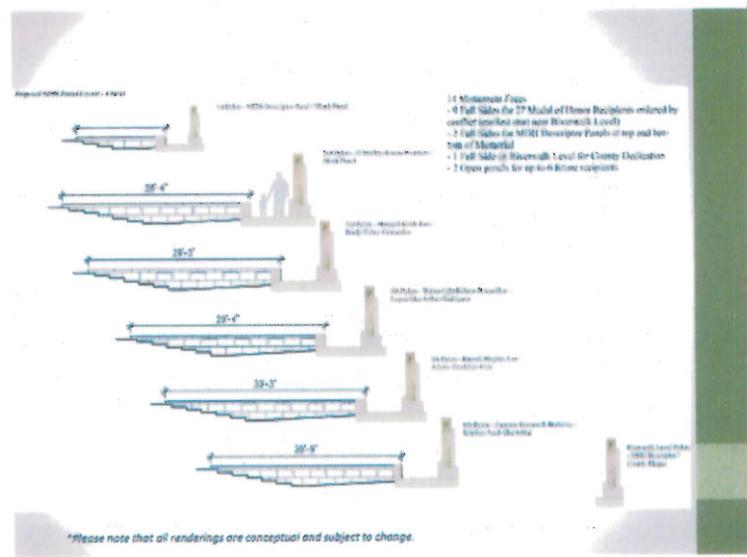
ENTRY TO SECOND AND THIRD FLOORS

*\*Please note that all renderings are conceptual and subject to change*

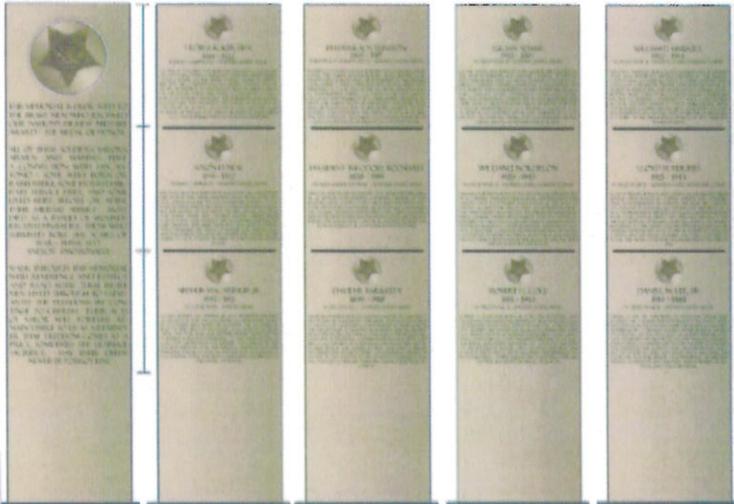




*\*Please note that all renderings are conceptual and subject to change*



*\*Please note that all renderings are conceptual and subject to change*



*\*Please note that all renderings are conceptual and subject to change*



*\*Please note that all renderings are conceptual and subject to change*

## MOH River Portal Update

### PROJECT TIMELINE

- |                                          |              |
|------------------------------------------|--------------|
| • Tentative River Portal Groundbreaking  | Nov 11, 2013 |
| • Start Riverwalk wall removal / grading | Jan 2014     |
| • Portal Completion                      | Jun 2014     |
| • Tobin Center Opening                   | Sep 2014     |

## MOH River Portal Update

### HOW CAN WE HELP?

- **Confirm Text for MOH Pillars**
- **Identification Signage**
- **Ongoing Maintenance and Upkeep (Monuments)**
- **Future Honorees**

Thank you

Michael J. Sculley  
Program Director  
**Bexar County**  
**Community Venues Program**  
101 W. Nueva St., Suite 1038  
San Antonio, Texas 78205  
(210) 335-1526  
[msculley@bexar.org](mailto:msculley@bexar.org)

