

**Veterans Commission Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2018**

Present: Mark Leach, George Smith, Ron Dickson, Kai Martin, Alfred Banfield, Fred Baer, Jacob Pletcher, Ben Renda, Linda Meyer, and Francisco Oliva

Absent: Hank Scherf, Myra Weiher, and Brandon Jones

Staff: Chief Deputy Counsel John Nibbelin and CVSO Norman Aleman.

Public Comments by: NONE

Topic	Discussion	Action/Next Steps
Meeting Called to order and pledge of allegiance recited	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commissioner Francisco Oliva in the absence of both the Chair and Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.• Pledge recited.• Roll call taken.	
Approval of prior meeting minutes and Adoption of Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minutes approved. Addition to the agenda was adopted to add Ms. Alyssa Houk from Jasper Ridge.	Meeting minutes amended and agenda approve.
Public Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public comments given by three in the audience<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ No comments made	No additional actions or steps needed.

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Veteran Commission Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Alyssa Houk from Jasper Ridge presented on the work they do with active military, veterans and their families using animals. • Commissioner Oliva suggested and then by vote, nominations for Chair and Vice Chair were unanimously postponed until the March meeting. • By vote, the 2018 Commission meeting schedule was adopted and making the November meeting to be scheduled to the first Monday (5th) due to a county holiday on the second Monday. • Ms. Joanna Arteaga La Spina presented on the Community Learning Programs at the County Libraries. Follow link with full description of program: https://smcl.org/veterans-connect/ Dialogue between the commission and speaker continued on the topic of identifying veterans and referring them to the CVSO. • The Veteran Homeless Sub-committee; Commissioner Dickson reported on their progress assisting veterans with housing and the need for additional storage for the items being donated. He also noted the works of Central Peninsula Church (CPC) is doing to assist veterans with housing vouchers. Additionally, Commissioner Smith spoke in regards to veteran housing in the county and the efforts from the Redwood City American Legion to build a 329 unit with 15-20% of them to be exclusively occupied by veterans. 	<p>No additional actions or steps needed.</p> <p>Agenda item for March 12th meeting.</p> <p>No additional actions or steps needed.</p> <p>No additional actions or steps needed.</p> <p>The sub-committee will continue to work with agencies to house veterans.</p>
Report from CVSO Liaison	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Norman Aleman provided the CVSO report. 	<p>See attachment for report.</p>

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Announcements from Veterans Commissioners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Announcement made by Commissioner Oliva that Commissioner Weiher will not accept nominations for Chair. • Announcement made by Commissioner Smith in regards to California Department of Veterans Affairs will be hosting their meeting in San Francisco and activities at the College of San Mateo. • Commissioner Kai asked to be added to the next agenda to review Commission priorities. • Commissioner Oliva asked about the Commission's annual report. • CVSO announced the upcoming VA benefits seminar, the monthly newsletter, and the Veteran Fund. • CVSO announced the grand opening South San Francisco's Library Veterans Connect. 	<p>No additional steps.</p> <p>No additional steps.</p> <p>Ask the Chair to be included in the agenda.</p> <p>Meeting to come to draft the report.</p> <p>No additional steps.</p> <p>No additional steps.</p>
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm 	<p>Next Commission meeting is March 12, 2018 at 6:30pm</p>