

**MINUTES OF THE GILBERT VETERANS ADVISORY BOARD, IN SPECIAL MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 2022, AT 5:00 PM, MUNICIPAL BUILDING II, CONFERENCE ROOM 100, GILBERT, ARIZONA**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chair Les Presmyk, Vice Chair Dave Rosenfeld, Members Michael Bailey, Jim Lykins, Pamela Rinesmith, and Phil Bobadilla

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Member Brenda Sullivan

**STAFF PRESENT:** Staff Liaison Monica D’Ortenzio

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Alma Riedel, Denise Lopez, Josh Bring, Chris Marini, Andrew Gongora, Jim Schorie, and Erica Bailey

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Rosenfeld called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Staff Liaison D’Ortenzio called roll and declared a quorum present.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Guest Chris Marini led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Welcome and Introductions

No new guests present.

5. Communications from Citizens

None at this time.

6. Approval of Minutes

A MOTION was made by Chair Presmyk, seconded by Member Lykins, to approve the meeting minutes of the May 11, 2022. *Motion carried 6-0.*

## **AGENDA ITEMS**

### **7. Pillar of Veterans Events Memorial Day & 100-Year-Old Birthday – After Action Review and Memorial Day – After Action Review**

Guest Josh Bring provided feedback from the Town of Gilbert Memorial Day Event that was held on May 31, 2022. Guest Bring received positive feedback regarding the wreaths, the banner that was hung over Gilbert Road, presentation of the Gold Star coins, the number of riders that attended and the audio system sounded the best so far out of all the past ceremonies.

Guest Bring also went over the cons for the event which included the Riders leaving during the ceremony, the sprinklers needing to be turned off ahead of the event for the grass to not be so wet, proximity to the bathrooms, not enough signage directing people to the ceremony, better flow of the script, lack of trash cans, lack of shade for the elected officials and Gold Star Families.

#### **100-Year-Old Birthday – After Action Review**

Vice Chair Rosenfeld provided feedback on the WWII 100-Year-Old Birthday celebration drive by event that took place on May 28, 2022. Vice Chair Rosenfeld provided a rundown as to how the event went for those who were unable to attend. Huge shout out to the American Legion Riders, Sal's Gilbert Pizza provided dinner to the family and USAA donated a birthday cake. The WWII Veteran was overwhelmed with joy to see everyone that came out to help celebrate his birthday.

### **8. Pillar of Veterans Events – Veterans Day Planning**

Guest Payton Parker not present to discuss this item. Vice Chair Rosenfeld informed the board that they are still looking for a guest speaker for the event. This will be the 18<sup>th</sup> year that Gilbert has hosted this event.

### **9. Pillar of Veterans Events – Gilbert Days Parade**

Vice Chair Rosenfeld informed the board that he is in contact with the “historic vehicle guy” and they’re committed to participating in the parade. He has requested feedback as to how the board would like to be lined up during the parade either riding in vehicles or walking behind them. Chair Presmyk recommended having only 3-4 vehicles and a banner saying “Town of Gilbert, Veterans Advisory Board” printed on both sides.

#### 10. Pillar of Veterans Events – Pearl Harbor – School/ Classroom Presentation

Chair Presmyk informed the board that he has reached out to the director that oversees Social Studies and History for k-12 grades in Gilbert. He plans to connect with him on Monday to see what the current curriculum is regarding Pearl Harbor and the USS Arizona to hopefully reinforce the information and not necessarily repeat it.

#### 11. Pillar of Veterans Events – Town of Gilbert Veterans Discount Program

Payton Parker was not present to discuss item.

#### 12. Pillar of Veterans Events – Town of Gilbert Veteran Banner Program

Member Bailey provided an update on the program and informed the board that he is in contact with Sydney Price who oversees the banner program for the Heritage District. There is 30 banners total for the downtown area and the Town of Gilbert Streets team puts the banners up and takes them down. They need about three to four weeks of lead time. The banners would be up for the entire month of November. Guest Alma Riedel to possibly sponsor the entire program for the first go around. Banners are about \$100 each. The board needs to decide which style of banner they would like to have put up and have a link to the website for people to register for a banner.

#### 13. Pillar of Veterans Events – Cadet of the Year Competition

Guest Hellen Krsul was tasked to steer head this program.

### COMMUNICATIONS

#### 14. Reports from Staff

Nothing to report.

#### 15. Report from Pillar Leader

Nothing to report.

#### 16. Report from Board Members

Member Lykins was asked to get with Payton Parker on coins and fliers for Veterans Day.

17. Report from Council Liaison

Council Liaison not present for the meeting.

18. Future Agenda Items and Review Future Meeting Dates

Next meeting is scheduled for August 10, 2022

**CONCLUSION**

19. ADJOURN

Subcommittee Chair Rosenfeld adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

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Les Presmyk, Chair

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Monica D’Ortenzio, Staff Liaison