

MINUTES OF THE GILBERT VETERANS ADVISORY BOARD, IN REGULAR MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2022, AT 5:00 PM, MUNICIPAL BUILDING II, CONFERENCE ROOM 100, GILBERT, ARIZONA

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Dave Rosenfeld, Vice Chair Jim Lykins, Treasurer Les Presmyk, Members Michael Bailey, Charles Dine, Lori Gauna-Barcklay and Pamela Rinesmith

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Mayor Brigette Peterson, Councilmember Kathy Tilque, and Staff Liaison Monica D’Ortenzio

GUESTS PRESENT: None

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

1. Call to Order

Chair Rosenfeld called the meeting to order at 5:08 p.m.

2. Roll Call

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

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Member Rinesmith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Welcome and Introductions

There were no guests to introduces themselves.

5. Communications from Citizens

None.

6. Approval of Minutes

Treasurer Lykins moved to approve the minutes of the May 17, 2022, June 20, 2022, August 10, 2022, August 10, 2022, August 11, 2022, and August 15, 2022, meetings; Member Rinesmith seconded the motion. *Motion carried 7-0.*

AGENDA ITEMS

7. Recognition of VAB Members Phil Bobadilla, Les Presmyk and Brenda Sullivan

Chair Rosenfeld presented awards to Phil Bobadilla and Brenda Sullivan to recognize and thank them for their term and time spent with the Veterans Advisory Board. Chair Rosenfeld also presented an award to Treasurer Presmyk to recognize and thank him for the term he spent as the Veterans Advisory Board's first Chair of the board.

8. Joint Meetings with Other Organizations

Treasurer Presmyk said he would like to hold a joint meeting with other organizations that align with the VAB and possibly have them scheduled the same day as the VAB board meetings. He asked the members if they had any recommendations for organizations. Member Rinesmith suggested reaching out to other cities that also had a Veteran board. Vice Chair Lykins suggested the Disabled Veterans Group.

9. Future "One Off" Events (not events held annually)

Chair Rosenfeld and Treasurer Presmyk discussed the Wellness Pillar to take on "one off" events like the 100-year-old birthday event that was held a few months ago. The Wellness Pillar would work on how to handle those types of events. Staff Liaison D'Ortenzio was assigned to reach out to Gilbert Digital to see if the Town was informed of such events.

10. Future Veterans Public Spaces to Recognize Veterans

Chair Rosenfeld recommended to the VAB that if they had not been to the City of Chandler Veterans Park, they absolutely should, and the best time was at sunset. He said he was hoping to find a space created or dedicated for Gilbert Veterans. The VAB discussed the possibility of revamping the Veterans Park that was currently located next to the American Legion Post 39 in Downtown Gilbert.

11. Possible Wellness Pillar Liaison to the Community Engagement Task Force

Chair Rosenfeld recommended having a VAB liaison to the Community Engagement Task Force as the topics they would be discussing also would align with what our Gilbert Veterans face. Board Member Gauna-Barcklay volunteered to be the VAB liaison to the Community Engagement Task Force.

COMMUNICATIONS

12. Report from Staff

Nothing to report.

13. Pillar Leader Reports

Veterans Wellness Pillar

Treasurer Presmyk reported that the Wellness Pillar had their first meeting since the change of leadership and roles. He said the meeting was a change to bring everyone up to speed as to what the pillar had been doing and future plans, adding they were also working on the next Military Muster event.

USS Arizona Pillar

Member Rinesmith reported out that the USS Arizona Pillar met recently and talked about participating in the Gilbert Days Parade. She said USS Arizona Foundation Board Representative Danielle Skranak said the foundation would provide a banner for the event and future use.

Veteran Events Pillar

Vice Chair Lykins reported out that the Veterans Day Ceremony was coming up in November. He said there was a last-minute change of sponsorship, but fliers had been printed. Vice Chair Lykins encouraged board members to take a stack of fliers and start handing them out to get the word out. He said Higley Unified School District (HUSD) had agreed to sponsor the purchase of the coins again this year. He said the banner program was almost ready to go live, they just needed to find out how to accept payment once approved and which banner style to use.

14. Report from Chair

Chair Rosenfeld reported out that the VAB's bylaws, fundraising and budget would now be on the next Town Council meeting agenda for approval.

15. Report from Board Members

Nothing to report.

16. Report from Council Liaisons

Councilmember Tilque welcomed new member Lori Guana-Barcklay.

Mayor Peterson reported that she attended the Phoenix Mesa Gateway Airport Authority Tower Dedication Ceremony, noting the tower was dedicated to the late Senator John S. McCain III and it was a really well attended event.

17. Future Agenda Items

None.

CONCLUSION

18. ADJOURN

Chair Rosenfeld adjourned the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

ATTEST:

Dave Rosenfeld, Chair

Monica D’Ortenzio, Staff Liaison