

MINUTES OF THE GILBERT VETERANS ADVISORY BOARD, IN REGULAR MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2023, AT 5:00 PM, MUNICIPAL BUILDING I, ARIZONA CONFERENCE ROOM, GILBERT, ARIZONA

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

COUNCIL ABSENT: Treasurer Les Presmyk

STAFF PRESENT: Staff Liaison Monica D’Ortenzio

GUESTS PRESENT: Mayor Brigette Peterson

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

1. Call to Order

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 Bill Spence led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Welcome and Introductions

None.

5. Communications from Citizens

Cathy Panella spoke about Wreaths Across America’s Mobile Education Exhibit visit to Arizona in March.

6. Approval of Minutes

Vice Chair Lykins moved to approve the minutes of the January 18, 2023; Member Gauna-Barcklay seconded the motion. *Motion carried 5-0; Member Bailey was absent at time of vote.*

AGENDA ITEMS

7. Banner Program Update

Member Bailey informed the Board that he submitted the final changes to the banner website. He said he was waiting for the updated website link to be sent over, but once received the website should be up and running for banner purchases. He added that the banners needed to be submitted to the Town by April 24th, and the banner display dates were May 1st through June 5, 2023.

8. Veteran Information Cards

The Board agreed to keep the Veteran Informational Cards. They discussed the few items needing to be updated on the card; once Chair Rosenfeld received the updated card back, Staff Liaison D'Ortenzio would have 500 printed.

9. Meet a Veteran Update

Staff Liaison D'Ortenzio to work with Member Dine and to reach out to Gilbert Digital to see if they could provide assistance. Board Members were tasked with bringing nomination names to the next meeting.

10. USS Arizona Legacy Foundation Update

Nothing to report.

Member Bailey arrived at the meeting at 5:29 p.m.

11. Gold Star Family Coins: Run for the Fallen

Member Rinesmith explained to the Board that the school she works at, St. Peters Indian Mission Catholic School, would be hosting an event called Run for the Fallen. She said 10 Gold Star Families were expected to be in attendance, and Member Rinesmith would like to give each a Gold Star Family Coin on behalf of the Board and Town. Board members liked the idea and agreed to the 10 Gold Star Family Coins. They also decided to order more coins for the upcoming Memorial and Veterans Day.

Chair Rosenfeld asked for a motion to order an additional 100 Gold Star Family Coins; Member Lykins moved to approve; Member Gauna-Barcklay seconded the motion. *Motion carried 6-0.*

12. East Valley Veterans Group Update

Chair Rosenfeld said he had been in contact with other East Valley groups about the Junior Reserves Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) competition. He said he was trying to get as many people involved and asked the Board members to spread the word. He also mentioned that if anyone wanted to sponsor the event, let him know.

COMMUNCIATIONS

13. Report from Staff

Nothing to report.

14. Pillar Reports

Veterans Wellness Pillar

Member Dine reported out to the Board that the Wellness Pillar had so far held two meetings this year, adding the purpose of these meetings was to get organized. He said their first priority was to find out/obtain the Town's date base for veteran contacts; the second priority was engagement recognition veteran resources; third priority was the social plan. Chair Rosenfeld liked where the Pillar was heading and strongly requested a Military Muster be at minimum scheduled quarterly and one must be scheduled between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

USS Arizona Pillar

Member Rinesmith reported out that the Pillar had held two meetings this year so far and was working on revamping the USS Arizona informational flyer, adding they would like the flyer to be more geared towards the Town of Gilbert instead of the Foundation. She said the Pillar was starting on the planning logistics for the Welcome Sailors to Gilbert event; however, the christening had been pushed to late 2025/2026 so the pillar decided to hold off on planning at this time.

She also noted they were requesting volunteers at the following events:

- Gilbert Outdoor Expo 2/25 – Riparian
- Gilbert Global Village Festival 4/1 – Civic Center

Veteran Events Pillar

Member Lykins reported out that the Events Pillar held one meeting this year and their main focus right now was planning for Memorial Day, adding that event would be held on 5/29 on the Civic Center Lawn. He said the Pillar was looking for sponsors for the event and they planned to use the same flyer as last year with updated information, noting the pillar would be meeting the second Wednesday of the month.

15. Report from Board Members

Member Gauna-Barcklay said she would look into hold a Military Muster event after the Gilbert Global Village Festival at possibly Tap Dragon or Desert Munk Brewing.

16. Report from Treasurer

Not present.

17. Report from Council Liaisons

Mayor Peterson passed out Certificate of Achievements from the 2022 Gilbert Chamber of Commerce Community Excellence Awards to all the past and present Board members. She also passed out patches that she purchased from a Gilbert Police fundraising event, "Salute to Service" patches. She thanked the Board for all their hard work and for being recognized at the Gilbert Chamber of Commerce Community Excellence Awards. She said she met with Tonya who was the newest member of the USS Arizona Foundation and discussed her new role. Mayor Peterson stated she received a book from General Dynamic Electric Boat Company that would be on display downstairs. She suggested to the Board that during this slow time of events for the USS Arizona SSN 803, she would like to see them out educating the public on the submarine, battleship, and Pearl Harbor. She also mentioned that she attended a World War II Veteran's 100-year old's birthday party earlier that day and that American Legion and riders were also present.

18. Report from Chair

Chair Rosenfeld explained to the Board how proud he was of everyone and that the Veteran community was being heard. He said if anyone needed support in anyway, to let him know.

19. Future Agenda Items

No discussion.

CONCLUSION

20. ADJOURN

Chair Rosenfeld adjourned the meeting at 6:28 p.m.

ATTEST:

Dave Rosenfeld, Chair

Monica D'Ortenzio, Staff Liaison