



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE  
VETERANS ADVISORY COMMISSION**

**MINUTES**

Regular Meeting  
Wednesday, October 2, 2024  
Scottsdale Community Design Studio  
7506 E. Indian School Road  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

**PRESENT:** Land Anderson, Chair  
Justin Layman, Vice Chair  
Mark Ashley  
Steven Jackson (arrived at 5:02 p.m.)  
Patrick Mazzarella  
Pete Palmer (MS Teams)

**ABSENT:** Joel Stempil

**STAFF:** Kelly Corsette, Communications/Public Affairs Director

**1. Call to Order/Roll Call**

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

Members present as listed above.

**2. Public Comment**

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

### **3. Discussion and possible action to approve September 4, 2024 commission meeting minutes**

CHAIR ANDERSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 4, 2024 VETERANS ADVISORY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES. VICE-CHAIR LAYMAN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR ANDERSON, VICE-CHAIR LAYMAN, COMMISSIONERS ASHLEY, MAZZARELLA, AND PALMER VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE; COMMISSIONER JACKSON WAS NOT PRESENT; THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES

### **4. Discussion and Updates - Scottsdale Salutes and 2024/25 veterans recognition activities**

Kelly Corsette, Communications/Public Affairs Director, gave an update on the 2024 Scottsdale Salutes program. Fifty nominations were received at when nominations closed on Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup>. Nominations are currently being reviewed and work is being done to prepare the banner art. The goal is to honor as many new veterans as possible. Scottsdale Salutes reception will be held on Friday, November 8, 2024, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Design Studio.

Annual Veterans Day commemoration will be held on Monday, November 11, 2024, at Civic Center Memorial Lawn, beginning at 10:30 a.m.

Vice-Chair Layman said that the he reached out to the Marine Corps Honor Guard and they are not available to participate in the Parada del Sol.

Vice-Chair Layman mentioned that he reached out to the Traveling Vietnam Wall to see if it is available for the Vietnam Veterans Day event and is waiting for a response. He will also be looking into the availability of the Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon and the U.S.S Arizona Bell. Discussion ensued regarding the Vietnam Veterans Day event invitations and marketing efforts. Mr. Corsette suggested that the event could pivot from a Scottsdale event to a "Scottsdale hosts an Arizona Vietnam" event. Commissioners suggested that they reach out to SRPMIC to see if they have a drum group that could perform and that a representative from Honor Flights be invited to speak. Commissioners can submit additional ideas for the event until January.

Mr. Corsette announced that the Department of Defense Vietnam war Commemoration has honored Scottsdale, commending the city for being a top performer commemorative partner. The recognition talks about how since the inauguration in 2012, the City has close to five or more events, which thank and honor our Vietnam veterans and their families, which puts the city in the top 15 percent of the 13,000 commemorative partner organizations around the country. He would like the Commission to present the Certificate of Appreciation to City Council in November. He will reach out to the DOD to invite someone from the Vietnam War Commemoration to attend the Vietnam Veterans Day event.

**5. Discussion and possible recommendations: communication and invitations to former commissioners**

Vice-Chair Layman explained that the idea of communicating and sending invitations to former commissioners would be the responsibility of the vice chair of the commission. Staff will compile a list of former members and confirm with them that they would like to be included on the list, and the vice chair will take the lead from that point forward.

**6. Discussion and updates to the Veterans Advisory Commission Work Plan**

There was no discussion about the work plan.

**7. Commissioner reports, staff updates and suggestions for future agenda items**

Commissioner Ashley announced that the Arizona Veterans Choir will be performing at the Hall of Fame luncheon is scheduled for November 1, 2024.

Future agenda items could include:

- Legislative agenda update
- VAC general work plan update

**8. Adjournment**

CHAIR ANDERSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 4, 2024 VETERANS ADVISORY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES. COMMISSIONER JACKSON SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR ANDERSON, VICE-CHAIR LAYMAN, COMMISSIONERS ASHLEY, JACKSON, MAZZARELLA, AND PALMER VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE; COMMISSIONER JACKSON WAS NOT PRESENT; THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

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