

**VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
February 14, 2019
Regular Meeting 6:00 p.m.
AMC Eagle Conference Room**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Veterans' Affairs Commission was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Francis.
- II. **PRAYER**
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- IV. **ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS:**
- **Present:** Chair Francis, Vice Chair Sears, Commissioners Aleem, Bruno, Burrell, Camara, Echols, and Mulder.
 - **Absent:** Commissioners Donaldson and Dyer.
 - **Staff:** Dr. Shannon-Banister, Project Manager, Community Relations and Jessica Morris.
- V. **GUESTS:** Dick Fulton, Ida Tholen, Gary Anguilm, Robert Chase, Jr., Emma Armstrong.
- VI. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Moved to approve the minutes by Vice Chair Sears and seconded by Commissioner Mulder. January minutes approved and signed by Chair Francis.
- VII. **STAFF REPORT:** **Dr. Shannon-Banister-**Provided handouts. Black History Month Proclamation, February 25th, Aurora City Council Chambers. Women's History Month Proclamation, March 4th, Aurora City Council Chambers. Dr. Shannon-Banister encouraged the VAC to join the MLK, Jr. Committee.
- VIII. **CHAIR REPORT:** **Chair Francis-**Chair Francis attended a brief meeting on January 25th with Mayor LeGare. It was an informative meeting about the allocation of the City of Aurora's VAC budget. The City of Aurora donated land around Buckley A. F. Base in lieu of a budget from the City of Aurora. There are many misconceptions that the A. F. Base supports all veterans. It does not support all veterans. Chair Francis would like Commissioners to educate Council Members about veteran's support within our community. Vice Chair Sears and Commissioner Aleem suggested putting together a brief to inform the state of veterans' affairs to City Council. Commissioner Donaldson maintains the current VAC budget. Commissioner Camara suggested forming a budget committee.
- IX. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
- City Council Liaison-Commissioner Echols-**Citywide events are a great way for Commissioners to network with City Council Members. Emailing is the most effective way to reach out to your assigned Council Member. Commissioner Echols attended Marsha Berzins monthly meeting. Allison Hiltz, At Large is in charge of all Boards and Commissions.
- Economic Development-Commissioner Camara-**He is working on the homeless veteran application. Commissioner Camara is working with a CPA. The goal is to teach veterans how to manage their finances. He attended The Homeless Veteran Resource Provider's event on February 5th.
- Public Outreach-Commissioner Mulder-**Attended Military Appreciation Day on February 1st at the State Capitol. Robert J. Sheetz, Veterans Service Officer for Adams County would like to be a guest speaker.
- Special Events-Chair Francis-**Chair Francis and Robert Chase, Jr. will Co-Chair the Stand Down Committee. March 13th is the next Stand Down meeting at Heritage Christian Center, 6:00 p.m. Chair Francis requested a letter from Mayor LeGare for the PVA event. The VAC will support by donating items for gift bags. Dick Fulton is representing PVA in tonight's meeting. The PVA Convention will be held Friday, May 10th – Sunday, May 19th at Gaylord Rockies Resort and Convention Center.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Sharon A. Lane Street Naming** –Commissioner Mulder-Chair Francis and Commissioner Mulder will schedule a meeting with Mayor LeGare.



- **Research on Existing Organizations** –Vice Chair Sears-No updates.
- **Stand Down-Chair Francis**-Updates in the Special Events Report.
- **National Debt Presentation** –Commissioner Echols-Provided a handout. Chair Francis will speak with Dr. Shannon-Banister on protocol to rent storage unit.
- **American/POW Flags Dispositions-Commissioner Bruno**-Presented an American Flag to Girl Scout Troop 327, POW-MIA flags to VFW 3631, TREA, American Legion Posts 1992 and 206.
- **Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA)-May 10th-19th, Gaylord Rockies Resort and Convention Center**-Chair Francis-Updates in the Special Events Report.
- **April 2019 MVEE Job Fair**-Vice Chair Sears and Commissioner Dyer-They attended the last meeting held at Heritage Christian Center. The job fair is scheduled April 10th, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Heritage Christian Center. Thirty one employers are committed at this time. Commissioner Dyer will order extra chairs. Set up and break-down for the event will be provided by Heritage Christian Center Volunteers. Publicity will be provided by ESGR.
- **Vest for Volunteers and VAC Shirts**-VAC Shirts provided for Commissioners tonight. Volunteer vest being researched.
- **Bylaws**-Chair Francis-She will email bylaws to the Commissioners.
- **Sympathy Card Design**-Vice Chair Sears-He read his draft to the Commissioners. Moved to approve by Commissioner Camara and seconded by Commissioner Mulder. Approved by Chair Francis.

X. **MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS:** None.

XI. **NEW BUSINESS:** None.

XII. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Race Forum, Healthcare and Race, April 18th.

XIII. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Chair Francis: The Veterans' Affairs Commission adjourned at 7:21 p. m.

Minutes Transcribed by: Traci Burton on February 27, 2019.

Approved: *Cynthia Francis*
Chair Francis

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, March 14, 2019 at 6 p.m. – 8 p.m., 4th Floor Eagle Room, Phone 303-326-8909

DATES TO REMEMBER

Race Forum Meeting	Thursday March 14, 2019 @ 6:00 PM	City Café, 2 nd Floor
Aurora Community of Faith (ACOF)	Thursday March 21, 2019 @11:30 AM	Sand Creek Room
Race Forum Meeting	Thursday, March 28, 2019 @6:00 PM	City Café, 2 nd Floor
Aurora Key Community Response Team (AKCRT)	Tuesday, April 2, 2019 @8:00AM	Aurora Room, 1 st Floor
Humans Relations Commission (HRC)	Wednesday April 3, 2019 @ 6:00 PM	Aspen Room, 2 nd Floor