



**Veterans Affairs Commission Meeting Minutes  
November 14, 2019**

**Meeting called to order at 6:20 p.m. by Vice Chair Aleem**

**Location:** Aurora Municipal Center, 15151 E. Alameda Parkway, Eagle Room

**Present:** Commissioners Aleem, Burrell, Charlip, Donaldson, Chase

**Absent:** Commissioners Camara, Echols, Francis (excused)

**City Liaison:** Claudine McDonald, Community Relations Manager

**City of Aurora Staff:** Joshua Nicholas – Administrative Specialist

**Guests:** John Savage, Joe Zmugg, Ron Smith, Doug Woodder, Melissa Sayouth, Terrell Horton

**Minutes:** Commissioner Donaldson moved to approve Sept. 2019 minutes, seconded by Commissioner Charlip. Commissioner Charlip moved to approve Oct. 2019 minutes, seconded by Commissioner Donaldson. Minutes were approved unanimously without corrections.

**Public Invited to Speak:** None.

Agenda Item	Minutes	Action Items & Responsible Person
VAC Recognition: Rep. Jason Crow's Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VAC Commissioners were presented with a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition, from Rep. Jason Crow, for their ongoing work to support Veterans in the community. Terrell Horton, Constituent Advocate presented award.</li> </ul>	- Joshua to make copies of Certificate for commissioners.
Vice Chair Report: Vice Chair Aleem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vice Chair Aleem provided an overview of the Stand Down and discussed ideas for the 2020 Stand Down.</li> </ul>	
Staff Report: Claudine McDonald	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provided updates on Aurora Health Jam, One Place Project, 34<sup>th</sup> Annual MLK Commemoration, and extended invitations to commissioners to attend the 51<sup>st</sup> annual Aurora Interfaith Community Services Gala.</li> <li>Stand Down final numbers: 133 total participants, 85 Veteran participants, Pre-event &amp; day of volunteers: 155, average length of volunteer service: 4 hours, total volunteer hours: 620, value of volunteer service: \$15,766.60</li> <li>Community Relations Division sponsored a special Veterans Appreciation Dinner from 6 – 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 14, 2019 for members of the VAC.</li> </ul>	
Committee Report:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>City Council Liaison:</b> Commissioner Echols – absent - no report.</li> <li><b>Economic Development:</b> Commissioner Camara – absent – no report.</li> </ul>	



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Special Events:</b> Commissioner Chase: provided overview of Stand Down partners and volunteers. Chair Francis, Vice Chair Aleem, and Commissioner Chase to debrief Stand Down Day with Claudine and Joshua.</li><li>• <b>Budget:</b> no updates.</li></ul>	- Joshua to coordinate Stand Down debrief.
Unfinished Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>MLK Jr. 2020 Event:</b> Claudine invited interested commissioners to participate in the planning of the 34<sup>th</sup> annual MLK Commemoration. Commissioner Charlip and VAC volunteer Stanley Dallas agreed to join planning committee.</li></ul>	- Joshua to add Comm. Charlip and Mr. Dallas to MLK Planning Group distribution list.
New Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>New VAC Applications:</b> The VAC has three applications in queue and interviews have been conducted. Final recommendation to City Council to be discussed at the Dec. 2019 VAC meeting.</li></ul>	
Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• None</li></ul>	

**Meeting Adjourned:** 7:41 p.m.

**Next meeting:** The next VAC meeting will be held on January 9, 2020 in the Eagle Room at 6 p.m.

**Minutes transcribed by:** Joshua Nicholas on 12/10/2019 at 7:55 a.m.

APPROVED:

*Cynthia Francis*  
Chair Francis