

**VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
January 10, 2019  
Regular Meeting 6:00 p.m.  
AMC Eagle Conference Room**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Veterans' Affairs Commission was called to order at 6:02 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, Dyer, Echols, and Mulder.
  - **Absent:** Commissioners Beard and Donaldson.
  - **Staff:** Dr. Shannon-Banister, Project Manager, Community Relations.
- V. **GUESTS:** Ida Tholen, Doug Edwards, Gary Anguilm, Steve Echelberger, Robert Chase, Emma Armstrong, Dr. Trisha Johnson, and Rodney Batiste.
- VI. **GUESTS SPEAKERS:** Shelley McKittrick-Homelessness Program Director, City of Aurora-(recorder turned off for presentation). Dr. Trisha Johnson-Community College of Aurora-Dr. Trisha Johnson discussed a certification program available to veterans at CCA. The certificate transfers prior military skills to college credits toward an associate's degree.
- VII. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Moved to approve the minutes by Commissioner Camara and seconded by Commissioner Mulder. December minutes approved and signed by Chair Francis.
- VIII. **STAFF REPORT:** Dr. Shannon-Banister-No written report.
- IX. **CHAIR REPORT:** Chair Francis-Chair Francis will email the Commissioners her goals for the VAC. The Commissioners can review her five year plan and discuss the ideas at a later date. She would like updates to the Commission once a month of contact between Commissioners and their assigned Council Members.
- X. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
- City Council Liaison-Commissioner Echols**-No report.
- Economic Development-Commissioner Camara**-He introduced Dr. Trisha Johnson from CCA as a guest speaker.
- Public Outreach-Commissioner Mulder**-Commissioner Mulder made contact with Representative Jason Crow's District Director.
- Special Events-Chair Francis**-Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA)-The VAC will not do a bowling fundraiser for the May PVA event. Chair Francis has not received information from PVA about volunteers. At the February meeting the VAC will vote whether to support the PVA, May 19<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> Convention.
- The next Stand Down meeting will be held at Heritage Christian Center, January 17, 2019, 6:00 p.m. Commissioner Aleem has created flyers and they will be submitted for correct city formatting.
- XI. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**
- **Sharon A. Lane Street Naming** –Commissioner Mulder-Per a conversation with Council Member Hiltz, At Large. Mayor LeGare could do the renaming by creating an ordinance. Dr. Shannon-Banister feels that is not a true statement. The Commission has asked that Dr. Shannon-Banister look into this information.
  - **Research on Existing Organizations** –Vice Chair Sears-Michael Bryant is working on the updates for the list of organizations.



- **Stand Down-Chair Francis**-Commissioner Francis gave an update in the Special Events Report.
- **National Debt Presentation –Commissioner Echols**-The letter of liability is waiting for approval. Questions to be addressed: cash value, line of custody, schedule of organizations to showcase the Mock National Debt, Commissioner in charge of transfer and mode of transportation.
- **American/POW Flags Disposition-Commissioner Bruno**-No flags were distributed in January. Commissioner Bruno is working on the remaining flags placements.
- **Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA)-May 19<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>, Gaylord of the Rockies-Chair Francis**-She gave an update under the Special Events Report.
- **April 2019 Job Fair-Commissioner Dyer**-The April Job Fair will be held at the Heritage Christian Center, Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Sixty employers are set up to attend at this time. Pastor Rodney Batiste will email floor plan to Commissioners Bruno and Dyer.
- **Vest for Volunteers and VAC Shirts**-Traci Burton is working on purchasing vest and shirts.
- **Bylaws-Chair Francis**-The bylaws will be emailed to the Commissioners. The bylaws can be reviewed.

**XII. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS:** Chair Francis discussed a gift purchased for Dr. Shannon-Banister's retirement. Emma Armstrong-Homeless Resource Provider Summit on February 5<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Shannon-Banister invites the Commissioners to attend the MLK, JR events this month. She suggest the VAC participate in next year's MLK, Jr. events. Commissioners Aleem, Camara and Echols attended the Heart of the World Christian Center, Rangeview High School, December 22<sup>nd</sup> 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

**XIII. NEW BUSINESS:** Vice Chair Sears will work on Sympathy Cards per Dr. Shannon-Banister idea.

**XIV. ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Dr. Shannon-Banister is retiring January 18, 2019. Commissioner Echols mentioned that the Colorado National Guard has a new Commander and Chief, Governor of Colorado, Jared Polis. Dr. Shannon-Banister attended Mike Coffman's mother's funeral.

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT:**

**Chair Francis:** The Veterans' Affairs Commission adjourned at 8:07 p. m.

**Minutes Transcribed by:** Traci Burton on January 17, 2019.

Approved:   
Chair Francis

**NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, February 14, 2019 at 6 p.m. – 8 p.m., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Eagle Room, Phone 303-326-8909

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

Race Forum Meeting	Thursday February 14, 2019 @ 6:00 PM	City Café, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor
Aurora Community of Faith (ACOF)	Thursday February 21, 2019 @ 11:30 AM	Sand Creek Room
Race Forum Meeting	Thursday, February 28, 2019 @ 6:00 PM	City Café, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor
Aurora Key Community Response Team (AKCRT)	Tuesday, March 5, 2019 @ 8:00AM	Aurora Room, 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor
Humans Relations Commission (HRC)	Wednesday March 6, 2019 @ 6:00 PM	Aspen Room, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor