



**Veterans Affairs Commission Meeting Minutes
February 13, 2020**

Meeting called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Chair Aleem

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

Roll Call:

Present: Commissioners Aleem, Charlip, Donaldson, Francis, Chase

Absent: Commissioners Burrell, Echols

Quorum: Yes

City Liaison(s): Claudine McDonald, Community Relations Manager, Joshua Nicholas, Neighborhood Liaison, Aruny Phanekham

Guests: Omar Lyle

Minutes: Commissioner Charlip moved to approve the January 9, 2020 minutes, Commissioner Chase seconded. Minutes were approved without objection.

Public Invited to Speak: Robert Carson – Retired Enlisted Association, Eleo Casil – Volunteers of America, Jimmy Dickson, U.S. Air Force, Recovery Care

Agenda Item	Minutes	Action Items & Responsible Person
Chair Report: Chair Aleem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Need for emergency funding and resources. Can the VAC partner with a local organization to create a referral service? Additional discussions needed. - Commissioner Francis was awarded an Everyday Hero Award at the Community College of Aurora MLK Luncheon. - Visited Bridge House to ask if beds could be set aside for veterans in need. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Joshua to provide VAC voicemail call-in instructions to all commissioners.
Vice Chair Report: Vice Chair Chase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No updates to provide other than Stand Down updates which will be covered during unfinished business. 	
Staff Report: Claudine McDonald	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shared Community Relations (CR) updates to include: Cesar Chavez & Dolores Huerta Community Celebration, National Volunteer Week, Community Spirit Awards, Aurora Youth Expo, and 2020 CR Schedule of Events. 	
Committee Report:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - City Council: no report. - Economic Development: Commissioner Camara: no report - Public outreach: Commissioner Francis: no report - Special events: Vice Chair Chase: Stand Down 2020 is tentatively scheduled for Sept. 26, 2020 with planning meetings beginning in February. - Budget: Commissioner Donaldson - no report. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Claudine to provide budget sub-committee with an update on available funds after she meets with finance and has conversations regarding the city's new priority based budgeting.
Unfinished Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Job fair: tentative date: 07/22/2020. Vendors will be required to submit a registration packet to include: contact information, 	



	<p>proof of liability insurance, signed vendor agreement, and confirmation of workers compensation coverage.</p> <p>- Stand Down: tentative date 09/26/2020, planning meetings to begin late February 2020.</p> <p>- Funding opportunity: VAC to submit grant request to State of Colorado for a Veterans Assistance Grant. Commissioner Charlip has compiled grant info for the VAC job fair, Commissioner Chase will provide grant info for Stand Down, and Joshua will compile all info into (1) grant submission.</p>	- Joshua will submit grant application prior to March 1, 2020 deadline.
New Business	- Need for emergency housing. See Chair's report for more information.	
Announcements	- New VAC commissioners will be sworn in March 2, 2020, 7:30 p.m. during City Council. Commissioners encouraged to attend.	

Meeting Adjourned: 8:48 p.m.

Next meeting: The next VAC meeting will be held on March 12, 2020 in the Eagle Room at 6 p.m.

Minutes transcribed by: Joshua Nicholas on 3/9/2019 at 11:35 a.m.

APPROVED: WATIK ALLEN

Print name: WATIK ALLEN

Title: Chair

Date: 3/12/20