

City of Milpitas
Draft Veterans Commission Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 1, 2012
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Milpitas City Hall, 455 E. Calaveras Blvd., Milpitas

- I. **Call to Order** – 5:30 p.m.
 - II. **Flag Salute** – Vice Chair Samano led the Pledge of Allegiance.
 - III. **Roll Call**

Present: Dana Arbaugh, Arthur Ebright, Mel Hinshaw, David Grundstrom, Bruce Choy, Eladio Aolin, Juan Samano, Liliana Ramos (arrived at 5:34 p.m.)

Absent: Denny Weisgerber
 - IV. **Seating of Alternates** - Eladio Aolin was seated
 - V. **Approval of Agenda.** Commissioner Arbaugh moved, and Commissioner Hinshaw seconded, approval of the Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.
 - VI. **Approval of Minutes – Minutes of December 7, 2011-** Commissioner Hinshaw moved, and Commissioner Arbaugh seconded, approval of the minutes as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.
 - VII. **Public Forum** – Kelly Grant, with the Humane Society of Silicon Valley, advised the commission that veterans are eligible for a 50% discount on adoption fees.
 - VIII. **Update of Veteran Resident Registration Forms** Commissioner Arbaugh reported there are currently 70 forms on file. Councilmember Giordano expressed concern that number seemed low and encouraged the commission to be more proactive. The commission discussed various options to solicit registration forms including running an ad on Milpitas Channel 15.
 - IX. **Update of Handicap Parking for Disabled Veterans** – Carmen Valdez reported that the Council already adopted a policy in 2007 to allow disabled citizens to paint their curb. She distributed the policy to the commission.
 - X. **Discussion of Survey** – Vice Chair Samano reported only three surveys have been returned on the needs of veterans. The top concerns are health benefits and medical treatment. The commission discussed the merits of the survey and possible actions/responses. The commission agreed a subcommittee should be formed with Commissioners Samano, Ramos and Aolin to revise the survey and send out to the 70 registered veterans. It was suggested the subcommittee meet quarterly and bring back the final survey to the commission for approval.
 - XI. **Update of World Trade Steel** – Carmen Valdez reported it is past the deadline to submit an application.
 - XII. **Discussion of Veterans Award** – The draft application was reviewed by the Commission. Carmen Valdez requested members to submit their edits to her via email. Councilmember Giordano suggested moving up the due date to allow more time to prepare for the award. It was agreed this topic will be on future agendas. Commissioner Arbaugh moved, and
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Commissioner Hinshaw seconded, limiting the eligibility to Milpitas residents only. The motion carried unanimously.

- XIII. **Commissioner Announcements** – Commissioner Ebright recognized Chair Weisgerber's recent promotion. He also commented that the Four Chaplains event was a worthwhile event.
 - XIV. **Future Agenda Items** – Veterans Award, discussion of survey, and review of work plan.
 - XV. **Liaison Reports** – Councilmember Giordano reported on the impact of the RDA abolishment and the flag ordinance. Carmen Valdez reported that Robert McGuire had passed away.
 - XVI. **Next Meeting** – April 4, 2012
 - XVII. **Adjournment** – the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m. in memory of Robert McGuire.
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