



**City of Milpitas  
Approved Veterans Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, February 5, 2014  
5:30 p.m.**

**Milpitas City Hall Committee Room  
455 E. Calaveras Blvd.  
Milpitas, CA 95035**

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** 5:30 p.m.

**II. FLAG SALUTE:** Vice Chair Arbaugh led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Dana Arbaugh, Art Ebright, David Grundstrom, Mel Hinshaw, Bruce Choy, and Liliana Ramos

**Absent:** Denny Weisgerber (E), Juan Samano (E), Ferdinand Luis, Jr. (UE)

**IV. SEATING OF ALTERNATES:** Liliana Ramos was seated as a voting member.

**V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Vice Chair Arbaugh added "Approval of Minutes" to the Agenda. Commissioner Grundstrom moved, and Commissioner Choy seconded the motion to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

**VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Minutes of December 4, 2013**

Commissioner Ramos moved, and Commissioner Ebright seconded the motion to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

**VII. PUBLIC FORUM:** None

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Citywide Strategic Planning (Public Dialogue Consortium, Dr. Shawn Spano)

Dr. Spano explained the Citywide Strategic Planning process to the Commission. He stated his organization is collecting input from community members and City employees to help develop the Vision, Mission, and Values for the City. He said his purpose tonight was to collect input from the Commission. He said the next phase will be to develop strategic goals and work plans for the City. Dr. Spano asked for the Commissions' thoughts and input as it relates to the City's current strengths, problems, the future and what kind of community it envisions.

There was discussion regarding strengths which included Milpitas being a safe city, low crime, easy access to freeways, nice City facilities including City Hall, library, senior center, and sports center; the small town atmosphere; and recycling program.

There was discussion regarding problems affecting the city which included traffic congestion during commute hours and suggesting the city officials should focus on traffic mitigation with the State and County; overcrowding in schools; traffic being

a safety issue for children attending school; better communication from the City to the community regarding the budget and unfunded pension liability.

There was discussion regarding future problems with BART coming to Milpitas, criminals commuting here to commit crimes and threatening the safety of Milpitas; managing the growth and maintaining the quality of life; City remaining solvent; revamping the downtown; additional parking; managing growth and high density housing; planning for additional city services with the growing population; a partnership and a collaboration between the City and the school district; identifiable downtown; to learn from the lessons of the past as we plan for the future.

Dr. Spano thanked the commissioners for their time and their service to the Country as well.

## **IX. OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. Milpitas Veterans Car Show – Staff Liaison Valdez**

The Commission discussed the amount it would donate to the charity. It was the consensus of the Commission to donate \$2,000 to the Fisher House.

Commissioner Ebright moved, and Commissioner Choy seconded the motion to donate \$2,000 to the Fisher House Foundation. The motion carried unanimously.

Staff Liaison Valdez asked the Commission to select a date and time to meet with a Fisher House representative to present the donation. The Commission chose February 18<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m. Commissioner Ebright volunteered to contact the Fisher House representative and confirm the date and time.

Staff Liaison Valdez asked the Commission to pick a date for the next car show in 2014.

Commissioner Grundstrom moved, and Commissioner Ramos seconded the motion to approve October 18, 2014, as the date for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Veterans Commission Car Show. The motion carried unanimously.

**X. COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Vice Chair Arbaugh announced he attended the dedication of the Milpitas Minute Man statue in front of City Hall. He added there was an interesting connection to the Veterans Commission. Chair Denny Weisgerber was the point of contact to rally the voters of Milpitas against San Jose's take over. His phone number was and still is today "1776."

**XI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** Staff Liaison Valdez said the Commission will be having nominations for Chair and Vice Chair at the next meeting and will also discuss the Commission's work plan. She said she would email the work plan to the Commission so it would be prepared for the next meeting.

## **XII. LIAISON REPORTS**

- A. City Council - None
- B. Staff Report - None

**XIII. NEXT MEETING –** Wednesday, April 2, 2014 at 5:30 p.m.

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT –** Commissioner Grundstrom moved, and Commissioner Ebright seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:23 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.