



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE  
VETERANS ADVISORY COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING**

**MINUTES**

Wednesday, November 2, 2022

Scottsdale Community Design Studio  
7506 E Indian School Rd, Scottsdale, AZ 85251

**PRESENT:** Vice-Chair (Chairperson) Steven Jackson; Commissioner (Vice Chair) Land Anderson, Commissioners Mark Ashley, Patrick Mazzarella, and Joel Stempil

**ABSENT:** Commissioners Andrew Edwards and Pete Palmer

**STAFF:** Kelly Corsette, Communications/Public Affairs Director

**1. Call to Order/ Roll Call**

Vice-Chair Jackson called the meeting to order 5:00 p.m.

Members present as listed above.

**2. Discussion and possible action to approve October 6, 2022 commission meeting minutes**

COMMISSIONER STEMPIL MOVED TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 6, 2022 VETERANS ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES. COMMISSIONER ASHLEY SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0). VICE-CHAIR JACKSON, COMMISSIONERS ANDERSON, ASHLEY, MAZZARELLA, AND STEMPIL VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

Commissioner Mazzarella introduced himself and talked about his interest in joining the Commission. Commissioners and staff introduced themselves and each gave an overview of their background.

**3. Discussion and possible action to elect a commission chair to serve the remainder of the calendar year 2022**

Mr. Corsette gave an overview of the election process and bylaw requirements. He noted that Vice-Chair Jackson expressed an interest in acting as Commission chairperson. No additional nominations were submitted from the floor.

COMMISSIONER ASHLEY MOVED TO ELECT STEPHEN JACKSON AS CHAIRPERSON OF THE VETERANS ADVISORY COMMISSION. COMMISSIONER ANDERSON SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR JACKSON, COMMISSIONERS ANDERSON, ASHLEY, MAZZARELLA, AND STEMPIL VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

**4. Discussion and possible action to elect a commission vice chair to serve the remainder of the calendar year 2022**

Mr. Corsette noted that Commissioner Anderson expressed an interest in acting as Commission vice chairperson. No additional nominations were submitted from the floor.

COMMISSIONER STEMPIL MOVED TO ELECT LAND ANDERSON AS VICE CHAIRPERSON OF THE VETERANS ADVISORY COMMISSION. COMMISSIONER ASHLEY SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0). VICE-CHAIR JACKSON, COMMISSIONERS ANDERSON, ASHLEY, MAZZARELLA, AND STEMPIL VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

**5. Presentation and discussion regarding a planned veterans housing project in Phoenix**

Chris Bailey from Pennrose gave a presentation about the company's goals for building affordable multifamily housing for targeted populations and showed examples of projects they have completed across the country. He explained that the Garfield Phase II veterans housing project in Phoenix is phase two of a three-phase project; phase one was completed by a different developer approximately ten years ago. Phase II will cost approximately \$26.6 million, is expected to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2024, and will consist of 60 units exclusively for veterans 55 and older who are 60 percent AMI earners. Most of the units are studio or one-bedroom and rent will be approximately \$1,000 under market value thanks, in part, to Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers and HOME funds. He gave a brief overview of the rate structure for specific units. One goal of the project is to partner with local service provider to help residents with VA benefits, employment services, counseling, and peer mentorship. He noted that Pennrose is hopeful that they can partner with Scottsdale to build another veterans' project in the future.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Brief discussion ensued regarding the process of referring veterans for VASH vouchers through the Scottsdale Human Services office and ways in which Scottsdale could help with referrals and potential opportunity for a future project in or near Scottsdale.

**6. Update and discussion about the "Scottsdale Salutes" recognition program for veterans**

Mr. Corsette gave an overview of the progress of the "Scottsdale Salutes" banner recognition program. The banners will be installed tomorrow, Thursday, November 3rd and will be up until November 21st. A list of honorees will be available on the website. Mayor Ortega is expected to speak at a reception for honorees that is scheduled for November 10, 2022, from 4:30 to 5:30 at the Community Design Studio.

**7. Update and discussion regarding Scottsdale's annual Veterans Day Commemoration**

Mr. Corsette reminded Commissioners that Scottsdale's annual Veterans Day Commemoration is scheduled for Friday, November 11th at McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park, starting at 3:00 p.m. The program will begin with the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Band, followed by comments by Mayor Ortega, a recognition ceremony, and presentations by keynote speaker Rose Matti, and Joan Fudala.

**8. Discussion, updates and possible recommendations regarding the 2022 Veterans Advisory Commission Work Plan**

There was no discussion regarding the 2022 work plan.

**9. Commission members' reports, updates and suggestions for future agenda items**

Future meeting agenda items could include:

- Discussion about proposing that Scottsdale rename a park for a veteran in the community
- Discussion about ways to put veterans' history in the forefront
- Review of work plan

Commissioner Mazzarella said that he would like to see the Commission get involved with the MANA House. He is involved with a group near that sets up at an establishment near the Phoenix Veterans Day parade route and offers free hotdogs and sides to parade goers.

Commissioner Ashley suggested that the Commission could talk with Salt River-Pima Maricopa Indian Community about the possibility of funding a veterans' community with Penrose.

**10. Adjournment**

COMMISSIONER ANDERSON MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. COMMISSIONER ASHLEY SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR JACKSON, VICE-CHAIR ANDERSON, COMMISSIONERS ASHLEY, MAZZARELLA, AND STEMPLI VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 5:48 p.m.

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