



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

**MINUTES**

**Wednesday, April 6, 2022**

**Scottsdale Fire Station 602 Community Room  
7522 E. Indian School Rd  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251**

**PRESENT:** Vice-Chair Steven Jackson; Commissioners, Land Anderson, Mark Ashley, Andrew Edwards (Zoom), Pete Palmer, and Joel Stempil

**ABSENT:** Chairperson Denise Pulk

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

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

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

Members present as listed above.

Commissioner Edwards introduced himself and talked about his background and his interest in being a member of the VAC.

Commissioners each introduced themselves and briefly reviewed their background.

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

COMMISSIONER PALMER MOVED TO APPROVE THE MARCH 2, 2022 VETERANS ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES. COMMISSIONER STEMPIL SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0). VICE-CHAIR JACKSON, COMMISSIONERS ANDERSON, ASHLEY, EDWARDS, PALMER, AND STEMPIL VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

### **3. Discussion and possible recommendations regarding commissioner roles in the 2022 Veterans Advisory Commission Work Plan**

Mr. Corsette noted that the 2022 updated work plan was forwarded to City Council as an information item. No comments have been received from Council members regarding the work plan. Mr. Corsette confirmed that the City has the ability to conduct a survey and he and Commissioner Palmer will work to formulate questions for a Veterans survey that can be brought forward later this year.

Discussion ensued regarding Commissioner roles and assignments for the 2022 Veterans Advisory Commission Work Plan tasks. As each task was reviewed, brief plans for the item were discussed and a lead Commissioner for each item was identified. Some task assignments were tabled until a future date. Mr. Corsette will provide an updated list as assignments are made. Discussion about the 2022 VAC work plan will be a standing agenda item. Individual tasks can be agendaized for deeper discussion as needed.

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

Mr. Corsette said that the City does not host a Memorial Day recognition, but does give support in form of publicity and event setup to the American Legion/DAV/VFW event that occurs near the Chaplain Sculpture at City Hall on Memorial Day, starting at 9:00 a.m.

Commissioner Palmer noted that there will be a Memorial Day event at the National Cemetery.

Commissioner Anderson mentioned that he works with the Veterans Furniture Center, which is a 501(c)(3) that furnishes studio apartments for homeless veterans. Mr. Corsette recalled that the Commission received a presentation from the organization in the past, prior to the website being created. He will add them to the list of potential companies to list on the website.

Commissioner Jackson suggested making a video for Memorial Day, featuring two or three Scottsdale veterans' stories. He offered to work with Mr. Corsette to contact individuals and help prepare to film the videos. Mr. Corsette said that he can also reach out to get a list of names that are on the Scottsdale Memorial.

Mr. Corsette mentioned that Scottsdale is a Hidden Heroes City with the Elizabeth Dole Foundation. He is currently working with them to plan a National Workshop at Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts for September 2022.

He said that the Military Family Research Institute at Purdue University will be hosting a Data Academy in Scottsdale on June 7, 2022. It will be a daylong invite-only session for non-profit organizations and other organizations that serve the veteran and military connected community around the nation to help them understand what good data is, how to find data, and what to do with data in terms of serving the veteran population. He invited Commissioners to let him know of organizations they think could benefit from participating in the event.

Future meeting agenda items could include:

- USA Cares presentation
- Veterans Community Garden (dependent upon follow-up with the Parks Department)

The next meeting is scheduled for May 4, 2022.

## **5. Adjournment**

COMMISSIONER ASHLEY MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. COMMISSIONER ANDERSON SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0). VICE-CHAIR JACKSON, COMMISSIONERS ANDERSON, ASHLEY, EDWARDS, PALMER, AND STEMPIEL VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

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