DATE: February 19, 2020, Special Meeting
TIME: 3:00 PM
PLACE: Conference Room 157
County Government Center – 70 W. Hedding Street, 1st Floor
San Jose, CA 95110

AGENDA

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Brown Act, those requiring accommodations in this meeting should notify the Clerk of the Veterans Commission of the County of Santa Clara no less than 24 hours prior to the meeting at 408-299-5001, or TDD (408) 993-8272.

Please note: To contact the Commission and/or to inspect any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the County to all or a majority of the Board of Supervisors (or any other commission, or board or committee) less than 72 hours prior to that meeting, visit our website at http://www.sccgov.org or contact the Clerk at 408-299-5001 or 70 West Hedding Street, 10th Floor, East Wing, San Jose, CA 95110, during normal business hours.

Persons wishing to address the Commission on a regularly scheduled item on the agenda are requested to complete a request to speak form and give it to the Deputy Clerk. (Government Code Section 54953.3.) Individual speakers will be called by the Chairperson and are requested to limit their comments to two minutes. Groups of speakers on a specific item are asked to limit their total presentation to a maximum of twenty minutes for each side of the issue.

COMMUTE ALTERNATIVES: The Board of Supervisors encourages the use of commute alternatives including public transit, bicycles, carpooling, and hybrid vehicles.

For public transit trip planning information, contact the VTA Customer Service Department at (408) 321-2300 Monday through Friday between the hours of 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., and on Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Schedule information is also available on the web at www.vta.org.

Bicycle parking racks are available in the James McEntee, Sr., Plaza in front of the County Government Center building. If this Board or Commission does not meet in the County Government Center, please contact VTA for related routes.

Opening

1. Call to Order/Roll Call.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Public comment. (ID# 100559)

Regular Agenda - Items for Discussion

4. Approve minutes of the August 15, 2019 Regular Meeting.
5. Presentation of the 2019 Veteran of the Year Award to Michael Frangadakis.
   (Supervisor Mike Wasserman)
   a. Elect Chairperson.
   b. Elect Vice Chairperson.
7. Receive report from David Till, Director, Office of Veterans Services, relating to office operations and services available. (ID# 100561)

8. Consider recommendations relating to the Veterans Commission of the County of Santa Clara Work Plan for Fiscal Year (FY) July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 (FY 2021) and Accomplishments for FY 2020, to be submitted to the Clerk of the Board by April 30, 2020, and subsequently forwarded to the Board of Supervisors through the Finance and Government Operations Committee. (ID# 100411)

   Possible action:
   a. Discuss and approve the Veterans Commission of the County of Santa Clara Work Plan for FY 2020-2021.
      OR
   b. Approve directing the Chairperson to develop the Work Plan for Commission consideration.
      OR
   c. Establish a Work Plan Ad Hoc Committee for the purpose of developing the FY 2020-2021 Work Plan for Commission consideration, and appoint Commissioners to serve on the Committee.

9. Discuss and approve Veterans Commission of the County of Santa Clara meeting schedule for Calendar Year 2020. (ID# 100412)


   Possible action:
   a. Discuss Commission interest in requesting the Office of the County Executive to fly the POW-MIA flag outside of County Government Center.
   b. Discuss and approve sending a letter to the Office of the County Executive requesting to raise the POW-MIA flag outside of County Government Center for the month of November 2020, and authorize a Commissioner to draft the letter.

11. Receive Verbal Reports:
   a. Representative of the Veterans Memorial and Support Foundation of Los Gatos.
   b. Representative of the 129th Rescue Wing, California Air National Guard.
   c. Representative of the Army National Guard.

12. Propose future agenda items. (ID# 100560)

13. Announcements:
a. Chairperson's announcements.

b. Commissioners' announcements.

c. There are currently two vacancies on the Commission. For Internet access to the vacancies list and applications visit http://www.sccgov.org/sites/cob/bnc/.

d. The County of Santa Clara provides reimbursement to appointed Commissioners for child care expenses incurred during the time spent performing their official County duties. Please contact the Office of the Clerk of the Board at (408)299-5001 for information.

**Adjourn**

14. Adjourn to the next regular meeting on Thursday, April 16, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. in Room 157, County Government Center, 70 West Hedding Street, San Jose.
DATE: February 19, 2020

TO: Veterans Commission of the County of Santa Clara

FROM: Danika Relth,

SUBJECT: Public comment

RECOMMENDED ACTION
Public comment.

ATTACHMENTS:
- Veterans 2-19-2020 Public Comment (PDF)
REQUEST TO SPEAK FORM

This document is a public record, subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act. This document may also be added to the meeting materials posted on the County website.

If you wish to address the Board, Committee, or Commission, please fill out this form and place it in the container provided.

DATE: 2/19/2020

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3

For Issue □ Against Issue □ Neutral □ * Written comments for the record only □

NAME (OPTIONAL): Dennis Whittaker

ORGANIZATION (OPTIONAL): Vic tuant Vets, 201 American Legion 642, VFW

ADDRESS (OPTIONAL): [redacted]

*If you want to provide written comments for the record only, and you do NOT wish to address the Board, Committee, or Commission orally, please write comments below:

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________
REQUEST TO SPEAK FORM

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If you wish to address the Board, Committee, or Commission, please fill out this form and place it in the container provided.

DATE: 2/19/20

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3

For Issue □ Against Issue □ Neutral □ * Written comments for the record only □

NAME (OPTIONAL): GERALD ARNOLD

Please print clearly

ORGANIZATION (OPTIONAL): DAV, VVA, UVC

Please print clearly

ADDRESS (OPTIONAL):

Please print

*If you want to provide written comments for the record only, and you do NOT wish to address the Board, Committee, or Commission orally, please write comments below:

VA CLINIC

HOMELESS VETERANS

VSO Reps @ PALO ALTO & SAN JOSE OCC VET CLINIC
REQUEST TO SPEAK FORM

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DATE: 2-19-2020

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3

For Issue ☐ Against Issue ☐ Neutral ☐ * Written comments for the record only ☐

NAME (OPTIONAL): Cole Cameron

Decline to State ☐

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

ORGANIZATION (OPTIONAL): 

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

ADDRESS (OPTIONAL): 

PLEASE PRINT

*If you want to provide written comments for the record only, and you do NOT wish to address the Board, Committee, or Commission orally, please write comments below:

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________

Packet Pg. 7
Proclamation from our meeting, February 19, 2020

The Veterans Commission of Santa Clara County

want to extend our deepest appreciation to our Women's Veterans,

especially during March, Women's Month.

We want to start by thanking personally

Mary Ellen Salzano, founder of Veterans Voice of Santa Clara County in 2007, a collaborative that supports all Veterans, regardless of DD214 status and


Kathlene Hall, Retired Air Force Major, Local Leader of Team Red White and Blue, which enriches the lives of Veterans by connecting them to their community.

Shalou Alberto, Retired National Guard, member Women's Veterans Alliance and similarly related women Veteran programs.

Thank you and all of your fellow women for your service to our country.

Cole Cameron

Alberto Carrillo

Michael Frangadakis

David Warren Sanders

Rene Spring
REQUEST TO SPEAK FORM

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DATE: 2-19-20

AGENDA ITEM NO. __________

For Issue ☐ Against Issue ☐ Neutral ☐ * Written comments for the record only ☐

NAME (OPTIONAL): [Handwritten Name]

ORGANIZATION (OPTIONAL): Wayne Co Veterans Commission, Michigan

ADDRESS (OPTIONAL): __________________________

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Decline to State ☐

PLEASE PRINT

*If you want to provide written comments for the record only, and you do NOT wish to address the Board, Committee, or Commission orally, please write comments below:

[Handwritten Comments]
This Friday, February 21st, the State of Michigan will recognize the service and sacrifice of military caregivers by signing on as a Hidden Heroes State in partnership with the Elizabeth Dole Foundation. We invite you to join the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency for a special Proclamation Reading at 10am in the MVAA Training Room located at 222 N. Washington Square, Lansing, MI.

If you aren't able to join us in person, the ceremony will be live streamed here: www.facebook.com/MtVeterans/ starting at 10am.

Sarah Mickowski, Patti Walker, Carrie Ann and 19 others like this.

20 Shares
6 Comments

Kate Melcher Can you make this public so I can share?
REQUEST TO SPEAK FORM

This document is a public record, subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act. This document may also be added to the meeting materials posted on the County website.

If you wish to address the Board, Committee, or Commission, please fill out this form and place it in the container provided.

DATE: 2/19/20

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3

For Issue ☐ Against Issue ☐ Neutral ☐ * Written comments for the record only ☑

NAME (OPTIONAL): NEIL LICHTMAN

ORGANIZATION (OPTIONAL): KNOW A VET

ADDRESS (OPTIONAL): [Redacted]

*If you want to provide written comments for the record only, and you do NOT wish to address the Board, Committee, or Commission orally, please write comments below:

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
Know A Vet? (KAV)

Attract - Inform - Connect

Business plan
Prepared February 2020

Contact Information
Neil Lichtman
Neil@KnowA Vet.org
(833) 566-9283 X 702
www.KnowAVet.org
211 Hope Street - P. O. Box 698
Mountain View, CA 94042, United States
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CONFIDENTIAL - DO NOT DISSEMINATE. This business plan contains confidential, trade-secret information and is shared only with the understanding that you will not share its contents or ideas with third parties without the express written consent of the plan author.
Executive Summary

Opportunity

Problem

There are thousands of mental, physical, financial and other resources available to the men and women who have willingly risk their lives to protect ours and our way of life.

Yet most veterans live with issues that prevent them from fully experiencing the American Dream they helped to secure for others. This is in great part because of a lack of knowledge and understanding of what they have earned through their service, how and where to get that help.

What's more, there has been no centralized place to even find the topics much less any serious outreach by the government to get that knowledge into the hands of veterans, their families and caregivers.

Solution

Know A Vet? (KAV) has built an 80+ topic, self-analysis website, to help vets recognize and understand life and family saving issues they may not even have recognized they had; with solutions, videos of vets getting better, and where to find help anywhere in the USA, by zip code, from the VA or community resources.

Our constantly growing site covers all of what the VA offers and much more. We have included material from other reliable resources, and several that we researched and created ourselves, based on veterans' requests.
To get the word out to veterans, their families and caregivers, we use a wide variety of outreach methods ranging from direct presentations to vets and families in College Vet Resource Centers, at Events, Rotary, Kiwanis and other clubs, via our 1,100 vet email list, social networking, outreach to senior facilities, working with other vet organizations, such as the VFW, DAV, VVA, etc., presentations at companies, advertising in stores, and much more.

And, since with this much information in one place, we recognize that the task of getting yourself to your best life after serving our country can be overwhelming, we also provide "Champions", in person, by phone and over the web to help people decide what they need, when, where and with whom.

Please see "Who We Are and What We Do" section later for full details.

**Who We Serve**

We have tested many markets and methods over the last four years and determined that two bring the best results for quality of life and management of our resources.

**Our first market segment is veterans, widows and widowers aged 65 and older.**

Since most of our 900 or so inquiries last year were about medical, financial, legal and social issues involving Seasoned Citizens, we did some research. According to the Congressional Research Service in a 2019 report, 4,700,000 seniors lived below the poverty line.

You read it right. **4,700,000 seniors**, who may **have earned VA benefits** from their, or their loved one’s Military Service, **have to choose between food, heat and medicine, because they don’t even know help exists!**

We found that very few know that they could be earning an average award of about $900 per month. Can you imagine what an additional $10,800 a year would mean to a senior in poverty.
Our second market segment is Post 911 veterans. These are the brave and patriotic people who were in, or volunteered to join the armed forces after the 911 attacks and have a very difficult time adjusting to civilian life. In our experience the average time it takes for a returning vet to get "stable" (an ability to provide their own housing and food) is over TWO years.

According to a Pew Research Center article on September 10, 2019, Forbes reported a Rand Sourced chart showing that by 2015, 2,770,000 Service Members had been deployed since 911 with the average being deployed more than twice.

Their exposure to traumatic experiences is far higher than those of the Vietnam Veteran. According to the VA, more than 1/3 suffer from PTSD.

The earlier they can get help to overcome the scars of serving our nation the longer they have to enjoy their best possible life.

Please see the "Problem Statistics" for a more complete presentation.

Funding Plan

We were mostly self-funded by our founders for the first three years. In our fourth year, with the help of dozens of individual donors and grants from Rotaries, Odd Fellows and corporations, such as Microsoft and Salesforce more than half of our funding is from the community.

We are members of Grant Station, as well as Benevity.

Now that we need to hire people and expand our marketing budget we are reaching out to more individuals and corporations for grants and donations.

Please see the "Financial Plan" section for our three year budget.
Comparison

KAV is not a service provider, as we do not provide medical, financial or counseling services.

However, our "competitors", many being service providers we refer people to, are all in competition with each other, for members, clients, donors, etc.

That is why there has never before been a comprehensive listing of all of their services, in one place.

So, with our unique site (www.KnowAVet.org) and it's zip code locator you can explore the details of your particular combination of challenges and find resources in your own area ranging from Federal, State and County governments to nonprofits and private organizations with solutions. And our services are all FREE and CONFIDENTIAL for our site's visitors.

In fact we have been told that even counselors in the VA and other professionals are using our site.

Collaboration

One of our founding principles is to NOT duplicate services. We want to refer people to existing services and focus our efforts on the infrastructure that has not existed for veterans, their families and caregivers to find those often competing services.

As an example, while our co-founder created the only database of all Federal, State and County government services, we refer visitors to both Aunt Bertha and 211 (United Way's site) for community services.

Our executive team are members of just about every major veteran's organization in the US. That includes the Disabled American Veterans (DAV), Vietnam Veterans Association (VVA), Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and many more.
Know A Vet?

We also collaborate with the VA, Work for Warriors, Second Harvest, nPower, the Yellow Ribbon program, various Veterans Service Offices, and more.

This is why, even though our internal email list is 1,100+ members, our reach is well in excess of 20,000.

Why Us?

It's simple. Because, we are veteran based, but not working for any particular organization other than KAV. We have built the only site of its kind where veterans, their families and caregivers can explore over 80 topics (and growing) with literally thousands of service providers. It is the only place where all this information has ever been put together, and can be searched by zip code.

Expectations

Forecast

Our expectations are simply that likeminded people who want to help alleviate the suffering of seniors and returning veterans will join us in a highly cost effective outreach to help resolve this issue.

Because we are both virtual and volunteer based, our total budget is very low, ranging up to only $330k in FY 2021, a cost that will be approximately $5 per veteran reached.

Please see our three year budget in the section below "Financial Plan - Forecast".

CONFIDENTIAL - DO NOT DISSEMINATE. This business plan contains confidential, trade-secret information and is shared only with the understanding that you will not share its contents or ideas with third parties without the express written consent of the plan author.
Funding Needed

Here is our three-year budget projection, based on our expenses and growth over our first four years.

Know A Vet? (Friends of the Vet Center) Profit and Loss

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<th>Income</th>
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<th>Fiscal 2019</th>
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Know A Vet?

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<td>Parking &amp; Tolls</td>
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<td><strong>Public Outreach</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Thank You Cards</strong></td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
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<td><strong>NET OPERATING INCOME</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

CONFIDENTIAL - DO NOT DISSEminate. This business plan contains confidential, trade-secret information and is shared only with the understanding that you will not share its contents or ideas with third parties without the express written consent of the plan author.
Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Aug 15, 2019 3:00 PM (Regular Agenda - Items for Discussion)

County of Santa Clara
Veterans Commission of the County of Santa Clara

DATE: August 15, 2019, Regular Meeting
TIME: 3:00 PM
PLACE: Conference Room 157
County Government Center – 70 W. Hedding Street, 1st Floor
San Jose, CA 95110

MINUTES

Opening

1. Call to Order/Roll Call.

Chairperson McVey called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendee Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Arrived</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michael Frangadakis</td>
<td>Vice Chairperson</td>
<td>Present</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephanie Martinson</td>
<td>Commissioner</td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Francis McVey</td>
<td>Chairperson</td>
<td>Present</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Sanders</td>
<td>Commissioner</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rene Spring</td>
<td>Commissioner</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Denny Weisgerber</td>
<td>Commissioner</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Public Comment.

No public comments were received.

Regular Agenda - Items for Discussion

4. Minutes approval:

   a. Approve minutes of the April 18, 2019 Regular Meeting.

   4.a RESULT: APPROVED [5 TO 0]
   MOVER: William Denny Weisgerber, Commissioner
   SECONDER: Rene Spring, Commissioner
   AYES: Frangadakis, McVey, Sanders, Spring, Weisgerber
   ABSENT: Martinson

   b. Approve minutes of the June 20, 2019 Regular Meeting.
4. b RESULT: APPROVED [4 TO 0]
MOVER: William Denny Weisgerber, Commissioner
SECONDER: Michael Frangadakis, Vice Chairperson
AYES: Frangadakis, McVey, Sanders, Weisgerber
ABSTAIN: Spring
ABSENT: Martinson


a. Elect Chairperson.

Chairperson McVey was re-elected as Chairperson.

5. a RESULT: APPROVED [5 TO 0]
MOVER: William Denny Weisgerber, Commissioner
SECONDER: Michael Frangadakis, Vice Chairperson
AYES: Frangadakis, McVey, Sanders, Spring, Weisgerber
ABSENT: Martinson

b. Elect Vice Chairperson.

Vice Chairperson Frangadakis was re-elected as Vice Chairperson.

5. b RESULT: APPROVED [5 TO 0]
MOVER: William Denny Weisgerber, Commissioner
SECONDER: Rene Spring, Commissioner
AYES: Frangadakis, McVey, Sanders, Spring, Weisgerber
ABSENT: Martinson

6. Consider recommendations relating to the development of an annual Veteran of the Year award. (ID# 98062)

Possible Action:

a. Receive report from the Veteran of the Year Ad Hoc Committee and the Office of Veterans Services.

b. Discuss and approve recommendations relating to a recognition program and selection process for the Veteran of the Year award, and forward a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors through the Finance and Government Operations Committee.

Discussion ensued relating to a timeline to present the program to the Board of Supervisors for approval before Veterans Day, the process of receiving nominations from each District, Commission selection of one nominee from each District to forward to the Board, whether a veteran should be alive to be nominated, and amending the current nomination form to exclude combat experience and replace with discharge conditions.
The Commission approved recommendations relating to a recommendation program and selection process for the Veteran of the Year Award, and authorized Traci Hess, Interim Director of the Office of Veterans Services, to finalize the document including amendments that were made during the meeting, and forward the document to the Board of Supervisors through the Finance and Government Operations Committee.

6 RESULT: APPROVED AS AMENDED [5 TO 0]
MOVER: William Denny Weisgerber, Commissioner
SECONDER: Michael Frangadakis, Vice Chairperson
AYES: Frangadakis, McVey, Sanders, Spring, Weisgerber
ABSENT: Martinson

7. Receive report from Traci Hess, Interim Director, Office of Veterans Services, relating to office operations, services available, and recruitment status of the permanent Director (ID# 98257)

Ms. Hess provided an overview of the written report.

Discussion ensued relating to the fluctuation of walk-ins received by the Office of Veterans Services in 2019 compared to 2018, reasons for increased visitation, appointment scheduling timelines, recruitments for department vacancies, and the potential of Veterans Services outreach programs to include South County.

Ms. Hess introduced Steve Fondacaro, Director of Central Services, Social Services Agency, who will assist with the transition of the Office of Veterans Services from the Office of the County Executive to the Social Services Agency.

7 RESULT: RECEIVED

8. Receive report relating to the work of the Veterans Alliance of Santa Clara County and United Veterans Council of Santa Clara County. (McVey)

Chairperson McVey advised of efforts to plan and fundraise for the 2019 Veteran's Day parade which is estimated to cost $70,000 to $80,000 with a potential increase in cost if security forces are increased.

Chairperson McVey further noted the potential cancellation of the post-parade event "Honor on the Row" if additional funds cannot be raised.

8 RESULT: RECEIVED

9. Discuss upcoming events for Veterans.

Chairperson McVey reported that he is working with the Martin Luther King Jr. Library to create an exhibit on the Vietnam War within the library in collaboration with the Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) and the Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America (AVVA).
Chairperson McVey further noted that the library will allow for one month of exhibition on the mezzanine space in March 2020, and reported that the library is currently planning on an exhibit relating to Agent Orange.

10. Receive Verbal Reports:

a. Representative of the Veterans Memorial and Support Foundation of Los Gatos.

Vice Chairperson Frangadakis advised of the completion of the Los Gatos memorial, reported that the Foundation pays $17,000 per month on the loan, and noted efforts to repay this cost.

Vice Chairperson Frangadakis further noted that until the loan is repaid the Foundation will not be able to begin to raise funds to provide support to veterans affairs within the community.

10.a RESULT: RECEIVED

b. Representative of the 129th Rescue Wing, California Air National Guard.

Vice Chairperson Frangadakis reported that the 129th Rescue Wing will host a door gunner training at Camp Hunter Liggett in August 2019, and a family day event in September 2019.

10.b RESULT: RECEIVED

c. Representative of the Army National Guard.

Vice Chairperson Frangadakis reported that the Commission is no longer associated with the California National Guard, therefore he is uncertain of current activities.

10.c RESULT: RECEIVED

Announcements

11. Announcements:

a. Chairperson's announcements.

Chairperson McVey requested the inclusion of an ongoing report relating to recruitments for all branches of the military, and announced the furniture redistribution business project of a retired pilot with whom he is working.

b. Commissioners' announcements.

Commissioner Sanders announced that the City of San Jose agreed to raise a Prisoner of War/Missing in Action (POW-MIA) flag, and proposed a request for the POW-MIA flag to be flown at County Government Center on the next agenda.
Commissioner Sanders announced that the United States Department of Veterans Affairs released an update to the disability ratings schedule for infectious diseases, immune disorders, and nutritional deficiencies.

Commissioner Weisgerber announced that a member of the Korean community, James Lee, is planning a dinner to honor veterans of the Korean War and needs contacts.

Commissioner Weisgerber announced an upcoming car show on August 24, 2019 in Milpitas as part of the Hot August Nights celebration.

c. There is currently one vacancy on the Commission. For Internet access to the vacancies list and applications visit http://www.sccgov.org/sites/bos/bnc/.

d. The County of Santa Clara provides reimbursement to appointed Commissioners for family care expenses incurred during the time spent performing their official County duties. Please contact the Office of the Clerk of the Board at (408)299-5001 for information.

Adjourn

12. Adjourn to the next regular meeting on Thursday, October 17, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. in Room 157, County Government Center, 70 West Hedding Street, San Jose.

Chairperson McVey adjourned the meeting at 4:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Danika Relth
Deputy Clerk
DATE: February 19, 2020
TO: Veterans Commission of the County of Santa Clara
FROM: Danika Relth,
SUBJECT: David Till

RECOMMENDED ACTION
Receive report from David Till, Director, Office of Veterans Services, relating to office operations and services available.

ATTACHMENTS:
• Veteran's Commission Director's Report February 19, 2020  (PDF)
Introductions

- New Director - David Till, MBA
  - County Veteran Service Officer since March 2008 (Pierce County)
  - College Business Professor at University of Wisconsin (UW)
  - Worked as the UW school certifying official (2006-2008)
  - Retired Infantry First Sergeant from WI Army National Guard
  - Accredited through NACVSO, WDVA, VFW, & American Legion... Soon CalVet

- Commissioners Introduction
News and Ongoing Projects:

**VSO Staffing:**
- One Veteran Services Representative (VSR) vacancy
  - Recruitment in progress
- Ten Accredited VSR
- Director Accredited
- Requesting Add/Delete of Office Specialist II
- Needs in future:
  - Office Operations Manager
  - Veteran Service Representatives
  - Administrative Assistant

**Office Remodel:**
- Mostly complete
- Handicapped access, blinds, office moves

**Call Center Reconfiguration**

**Website Update**
Outreach:

- Public Outreach Activities (Past Moth)
  - US Census Bureau - Job Hiring at VSO
  - Gilroy Military/Veteran Hall - 2/4, 2/19
  - Evergreen Valley College - 2/18
  - Vet Center San Jose 1/22

- Public Outreach Activities (Upcoming)
  - CVSO Day at Capitol
  - Palo Alto VA Medical Outreach Van at SCC VSO February 24th 9am-1pm
  - VHA - Palo Alto VAMC, San Jose CBOC - On site
  - Gilroy Veterans Hall (2nd and 4th Wednesday per month)
  - Universities: West Valley, Evergreen, Gavilan College, Mission College, De Anza College
  - Vet Center San Jose
  - DAV Job Fair
Contact Information

David Till, MBA
County Veteran Service Officer
Director, Veteran Services Office
Santa Clara County Social Service Agency
68 North Winchester Blvd.
Santa Clara, CA 95050
Office: (408) 918-4986
Email: david.till@vets.sccgov.org
DATE: February 19, 2020
TO: Veterans Commission of the County of Santa Clara
FROM: Danika Relth,
SUBJECT: 2021 Work Plan Veterans

RECOMMENDED ACTION
Consider recommendations relating to the Veterans Commission of the County of Santa Clara Work Plan for Fiscal Year (FY) July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 (FY 2021) and Accomplishments for FY 2020, to be submitted to the Clerk of the Board by April 30, 2020, and subsequently forwarded to the Board of Supervisors through the Finance and Government Operations Committee.

Possible action:

a. Discuss and approve the Veterans Commission of the County of Santa Clara Work Plan for FY 2020-2021.

   OR

b. Approve directing the Chairperson to develop the Work Plan for Commission consideration.

   OR

c. Establish a Work Plan Ad Hoc Committee for the purpose of developing the FY 2020-2021 Work Plan for Commission consideration, and appoint Commissioners to serve on the Committee.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Veterans FY 2019-2020 Work Plan (PDF)
- Work Plan Instructions (PDF)
- Work Plan Template (PDF)
COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA
Veterans Commission of Santa Clara County

FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020 WORK PLAN

AND

FY2019 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Members
Francis McVey, Chairperson
Michael Frangadakis
Joseph LaJeunesse
Stephanie Martinson
Dave Sanders
Rene Spring
William Denny Weisgerber
MISSION STATEMENT:

The commission shall act in an advisory capacity to the Board of Supervisors in:

The mission of the Veterans Commission of Santa Clara County (the Commission) is to enhance communication, cooperation, and collaboration among government agencies, non-profit organizations, and community groups that are working on honoring military service and veterans’ community issues and programs.

- The Commission will continue to advise the Board of Supervisors through the Board Finance and Operations Committee in all of these areas.
- The Commission will continue to work closely with the Veteran’s Service Office (VSO)
- The Commission will continue to collaborate and partner with quality veteran’s organizations and service providers
- Promoting, aiding, and encouraging public support to and recruitment for Reserve units, the National Guard, and State Military Reserve.
- Promoting, aiding, and encouraging public support for veterans affairs.
- Reviewing policies and programs affecting veterans.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:

The Veterans Commission was established by Ordinance No. NS-300, pursuant to and in accordance with Sections 601 and 604 of the Santa Clara County Charter. The Ordinance took effect on 1 July 1955. Membership was established as “seven (7) members of whom five (5) shall be representatives of the five (5) County Supervisorial Districts, and two (2) of whom shall be representative of the County at-large. The commission was assigned the duty to act in an advisory capacity to the Board of Supervisors in promoting, aiding and encouraging public support to and recruitment for the National Guard.

Ordinance No. NS-300.426, effective 12 January 1988, expanded the responsibilities of the Veterans Commission to encompass veterans’ affairs and changes the name to National Guard and Veterans Affairs Commission. The composition of the commission was changed to a total of eleven (11) members: five (5) of whom shall be representatives of the five (5) county supervisorial districts, two (2) of whom shall be representatives of the county at large, and four (4) nonvoting, ex officio members who shall be the commanding officers or designees of the principal Air National Guard and the Army Administration based in Santa Clara County or a designee.
Ordinance No. NS-300-808, effective 1 March 2010, made the following changes:

a. Reduced the number of Commission members from 11 to 10. Dropped from Commission ex-officio membership is the County Veterans’ Services Officer.

b. Designated the County Veterans’ Services Officer or his or her designee shall be ex-officio secretary of the Commission and shall provide secretarial assistance to the Commission.

c. Established Commission meetings to be quarterly on the third Thursday of the months January, April, July, and October; or upon the call of the chairperson; or upon the request of three or more members of the Commission to the chairperson. The time and place of each meeting shall be specified in the notice calling the meeting.

d. Effective in November 2017, the Board of Supervisors changed the name of the Commission to “Veterans Commission of Santa Clara County,” and adopted the new Mission Statement as recommended by the Commission. In January 2018, the Board authorized the Commission to partner with other quality veteran organizations and to participate in a wide range of community events.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GOALS/OBJECTIVES</th>
<th>PROPOSED ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>PRIORITY RANKING</th>
<th>TIMELINE FOR COMPLETION</th>
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</table>
| 1. Continue to Expand the network of veteran’s organizations, service providers, government entities and private businesses into a highly functioning team to benefit veterans. | 1. Continue to expand the network of partners and supporters developed over the past three years.  
2. Expand outreach to businesses, organizations, of technical and academic training and military and veteran transition efforts.  
3. Continue to expand opportunities for collecting and sharing information about issues that affect veterans.  
4. Seek opportunities to receive input from the community at large on opportunities, issues, or problem areas and forward those to appropriate resources.  
5. Continue working relationships and partnering with other quality agencies and groups.  
6. Encourage interaction and feedback from the veterans of the County; including increasing attendance by county veterans at public Commission meetings.  
7. Participate in community events that honor veterans, military service, and military families.  
8. Promote awareness of federal, state, and local legislation and policies that impact veterans. | 1 | Ongoing |
| 2. Develop recognition opportunities and awards for support those efforts of other organizations. | 1. Once direction is received from the Board of Supervisors implement a County Veteran of the Year Award. This will involve establishing a process, criteria, nature of the award with funding and venue in which the Board directs the presentation to be made.  
2. Continue involvement in supporting other organizations efforts to formally recognize deserving veterans and community leaders. | 1 | Veteran of The Year Nov. 1, 2019  
Then Ongoing |
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| **3.** Continue efforts to educate potential partners, elected officials and the general public regarding the desirability of creating a veteran’s museum. Continue involvement and support of memorials to be constructed in Santa Clara County. | **1.** Continue to investigate opportunities for establishing a veteran’s museum in the county.  
2. Collaborate with existing museums and attractions in the Bay Area including Spirit of ’45, the Moffett Museum, Hanger 1 at Moffett Field, and those presenting historical information regarding the former Almaden Air Force Station 682nd Radar Squadron atop Mt. Umunhum.  
3. Make efforts to educate private companies and others capable of providing financial support as to the benefits of such a facility.  
4. Consider starting small, such as a room in a library  
5. Encourage ongoing interaction with Guard Reserve units; invite military leaders to attend Commission meetings and events. |
|   | **2** Ongoing |
| **4.** Continue to support National Guard, Reserve, and Veterans Services Officers in efforts to benefit veterans. | **1.** Discuss issues of concern to veterans’ associations/organizations in Commission meetings and other settings.  
2. Encourage veteran organizations and others to attend and participate in Commission meetings.  
3. Continue to review and discuss reports presented by the Director of the Veterans Service Office.  
4. Support increases in resources and staffing of the VSO as appropriate |
|   | **2** Ongoing |
## PRIOR YEAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GOALS/OBJECTIVES</th>
<th>PROPOSED ACTIVITIES</th>
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| 1. Use revised Commission name and Mission Statement to promote and market Commission’s “brand” and purpose. | 1. Significantly increased the visibility and credibility of the Commission through community involvement.  
2. Increased awareness of veteran’s issues in the Community, attended several community and veterans’ events. Implemented opportunities to promote the Commission’s role and positive influence on outcomes that educate the public and enhance services provided to veterans.  
3. Commission presence established at Memorial Day, Day on the Bay, Honor on the Row and others. |
| 2. Continue to Expand the network of veteran’s organizations, service providers, government entities and private businesses into a highly functioning team to benefit veterans. | 1. Expanded the network of partners and supporters developed over the past three years.  
2. Began outreach to businesses, organizations, of technical and academic training and military and veteran transition efforts.  
3. Continued to expand opportunities for collecting and sharing information about issues that affect veterans.  
4. Coordinated and collaborated in receiving input from the community at large on opportunities, issues, or problem areas and forward those to appropriate resources.  
5. Continue working relationships and partnering with other quality agencies and groups.  
6. Conducted outreach through multiple veteran organizations and service providers to encourage interaction and feedback from the veterans of the County.  
7. Participated in multiple community events that honor veterans, military service, and military families.  
8. Promoted awareness of federal, state, and local legislation and policies that impact veterans. organizations. |
| 3. Continue to Expand the network of veteran’s organizations, service providers, government entities and private businesses into a highly functioning team to benefit veterans. | 1. Expanded the network of partners and supporters.  
2. Expanded outreach to businesses, organizations, of technical and academic training and military and veteran transition efforts.  
3. Continued to expand opportunities for collecting and sharing information about issues that affect veterans. |
|---|---|
| 4. Continue to support National Guard, Reserve, and Veterans Services Officers in efforts to benefit veterans. | 1. Discussed issues of concern to veterans’ associations/organizations in Commission meetings and other settings.  
2. Encouraged veteran organizations and others to attend and participate in Commission meetings.  
3. Continued to review and discuss reports presented by the Director of the Veterans Service Office.  
4. Supported increases in resources and staffing of the VSO as appropriate, supported budget increases for VSO.  
5. Commission active presence and visibility in many community events.  
6. Enhanced and supported the interim VSO in her work. |
| 4. Continue efforts to educate potential partners, elected officials and the general public regarding the desirability of creating a veteran’s museum. Continue involvement and support of memorials to be constructed in Santa Clara County. | 1. Investigated opportunities for establishing a veteran’s museum in the county, but made no real progress.  
2. Collaborated with existing museums and attractions in the Bay Area including Spirit of ’45, the Moffett Museum, Hanger 1 at Moffett Field, and those presenting historical information regarding the former Almaden Air Force Station 682nd Radar Squadron atop Mt. Umunhum. |
| 5. Develop recognition opportunities and awards for support those efforts of other organizations. | 1. Recommended that the Board direct the Commission to develop a Veteran of the Year program to be administered by the VSO.  
2. Continued involvement in supporting other organizations efforts to formally recognize deserving veterans and community leaders. |
<table>
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<tr>
<th>PROJECT</th>
<th>ACTIVITIES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Continue to build partnership networks and collaboration opportunities with other quality organizations such as the United Veterans Council of Santa Clara County, individual veteran posts, National Guard and Reserve units, and veteran service non-profit providers.</td>
<td>1. Assist in the planning of events, dissemination of information and outreach, and actual attendance of as many events as possible. 2. Support the programs and activities of veteran organizations and service providers.</td>
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<td>2. Continue and expand support and participation in County-wide military and patriotic events</td>
<td>1. Participate in Memorial Day Observances at Oak Hill Memorial Park, the Veterans Day Parade in downtown San Jose, and Honor on the Row at Santana Row</td>
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<td>3. Establish a Veteran of the Year program.</td>
<td>1. Implement Board of Supervisors direction, when a program is authorized.</td>
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<td>4. Continue to support the development of physical veterans memorials as well as events and awards to honor veterans and military service including families</td>
<td>1. Assist in the planning of events, dissemination of information and outreach, and actual attendance of as many events as possible.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Continue to investigate the feasibility of establishing a Veterans Museum in Santa Clara County.</td>
<td>1. During 2017 it was determined that there is considerable interest in having a Veterans Museum in Santa Clara County particularly if the Cold War story could be included. Continuing through 2018 even greater interest was expressed. No other museum in the greater Bay Area has such a theme/component. If even a room in a space such as a library could be devoted to starting an educational component, perhaps that could grow into a real museum over time</td>
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Instructions for Completion of Annual Boards & Commissions Work Plans and Prior Year Accomplishments

A committee comprised of Board Policy Aides and the Office of the Clerk of the Board have developed a standard template for use by Boards and Commissions in completing their annual work plans. A significant change is that work plans will be based on a fiscal year rather than a calendar year. The new work plans are to be completed by each Board and Commission and approved at a regular Board or Commission meeting no later than April 1 of each year. The Clerk’s Office will then transmit the work plans to the appropriate Board Committee for review in May of each year and to the Board of Supervisors for approval in June.

Please use the following instructions when completing the work plans:

Cover Sheet (Page 1)

This area should include the name of the Board or Commission, the timeframe covered by the work plan (i.e. Fiscal Year 2007 July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007) members’ names, chair’s name, and vacancies as of April 1. Do not put commissioner addresses or phone numbers on the work plan. The Board offices have access to that information if necessary. This page will need to be updated each year.

Mission Statement: (Page 2)

This area of the work plan should clearly state the mission of the Board or Commission. This information may be extracted from the enabling legislation (i.e. Ordinance, Board action, Resolution) that formed the Board or Commission or may be a purpose statement approved by the Board or Commission and derived from the enabling legislation. This section may also contain the roles and responsibilities of the Board or Commission. This page may not need to be updated each year.

Historical Background: (Page 2)

This area should provide the reader with some historical information about the Board or Commission (i.e. when it was formed, issues of focus in years’ past, significant outcomes of work by the Board or Commission. NOTE: Accomplishments from the previous year should not be discussed here – there is another area on the work plan where this is done. This page may not need to be updated each year.
Fiscal Year Work Plan: (Page 3)

This area should provide the goals/objectives (no more than 5) of the work plan, the activities planned to accomplish the goals, the priority ranking of each goal and the timeline anticipated to accomplish the goal. This page will need to be updated each year.

Prior Year Accomplishments: (Page 4)

This area should address the prior year work plan accomplishments including the goal/objective, activities that supported the successful completion of the goal and the status of the goal. The status column should inform the reader whether the goal was a) completed, b) not started and why, c) in process and expected completion date, or d) eliminated and why. This page will need to be updated each year.

Ongoing Projects: (Page 5)

This area provides the Board or Commission with an opportunity to inform the reader of ongoing projects that the Board or Commission is continuing to work on. This page may not need to be updated each year.
COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA

(Board or Commission)

FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 WORK PLAN
AND
2019-2020 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Members
MISSION STATEMENT:

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:
# FISCAL YEAR 2021 WORK PLAN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GOAL/OBJECTIVE</th>
<th>PROPOSED ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>PRIORITY RANKING</th>
<th>TIMELINE FOR COMPLETION</th>
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## PRIOR YEAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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<th>GOAL/OBJECTIVE</th>
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DATE: February 19, 2020

TO: Veterans Commission of the County of Santa Clara

FROM: Danika Relth,

SUBJECT: Veterans 2020 Meeting Calendar

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Discuss and approve Veterans Commission of the County of Santa Clara meeting schedule for Calendar Year 2020.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Veterans Commission of Santa Clara County Proposed 2020 Meeting Calendar (PDF)
- Year 2020 Calendar – United States (PDF)
Veterans Commission of Santa Clara County

Proposed 2020 Meeting Schedule

Meetings are typically held on the third Thursday of every other month
At 3:00 P.M. in Conference Room 157, County Government Center
70 W Hedding Street San Jose, CA.

February 20, 2020
April 16, 2020
June 18, 2020
August 20, 2020
October 15, 2020
December 17, 2020
## Calendar for Year 2020 (United States)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>January</th>
<th>February</th>
<th>March</th>
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<tr>
<th>April</th>
<th>May</th>
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<tr>
<th>July</th>
<th>August</th>
<th>September</th>
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<th>October</th>
<th>November</th>
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### Holidays and Observances:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 1</td>
<td>New Year’s Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 20</td>
<td>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 14</td>
<td>Valentine’s Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 17</td>
<td>Presidents’ Day (Most regions)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 17</td>
<td>St. Patrick’s Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 12</td>
<td>Easter Sunday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 13</td>
<td>Easter Monday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 15</td>
<td>Tax Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 5</td>
<td>Cinco de Mayo</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 10</td>
<td>Mother’s Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 25</td>
<td>Memorial Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun 21</td>
<td>Father’s Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul 3</td>
<td>Independence Day observed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jul 4</td>
<td>Independence Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sep 7</td>
<td>Labor Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 12</td>
<td>Columbus Day (Most regions)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 31</td>
<td>Halloween</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 3</td>
<td>Election Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 11</td>
<td>Veterans Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 26</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Day</td>
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<td>Nov 27</td>
<td>Black Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 24</td>
<td>Christmas Eve</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 25</td>
<td>Christmas Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 31</td>
<td>New Year’s Eve</td>
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DATE: February 19, 2020
TO: Veterans Commission of the County of Santa Clara
FROM: Danika Relth,
SUBJECT: Future Agenda Items

RECOMMENDED ACTION
Propose future agenda items.

ATTACHMENTS:
- Carrillo AMVETS letter (PDF)
Dear fellow AMVETS,

As many of you know, AMVETS has assumed a lead role in curbing veteran suicide in our country since we launched the HEAL Program in 2018. Whether the number is 22, 20, or 17 veteran suicides a day, these are unacceptable statistics that cannot continue. For that reason, I consider this among my top priorities as National Commander.

I’m proud of all the AMVETS Departments & Posts that have undertaken local efforts to intervene and address the problem in their communities. At National Headquarters, staff has been involved in more than 600 cases where a veteran faced a near or actual crisis. Yet, we must do more.

With that in mind, I’m proud to announce the public release of the “AMVETS Suicide Prevention & Crisis Intervention Course for HEAL Ambassadors.” The online course was designed to provide family members, caregivers, and friends of veterans at risk of self-harm or suicide with new tools to intervene and save lives.

This one-of-a-kind training was developed by the AMVETS HEAL Team for the purpose of taking what they learn through casework to provide anyone with the ability and confidence to handle a crisis before it happens.

It is so important for the entire AMVETS Family to do whatever it takes to confront veteran suicide. I know you agree.

For that reason, I’m challenging every AMVETS Post and Department to have at least one member complete the course during the month of November and up to 10 members complete it by the end of 2019. We will demonstrate to our nation what true veteran advocacy looks like, encouraging others to follow our example.

I will publicly recognize every post that has at least one member complete the training! We really need every post on board. Drastically reducing the incidence of veteran suicide is achievable, but it will require all hands.

The “AMVETS Suicide Prevention & Crisis Intervention Course” can be accessed at: amvets.org/vet-heal/. Following completion, feel free to send your feedback to Sherman Gillums at sgillums@amvets.org.

Thank you for taking part in our united mission to heal American Veterans.

Yours in Service,

Jan Brown
AMVETS National Commander

#your-sinSer-vice