

February 03, 2022

Powell's Creek Conference Room

Veterans Commission

MINUTES

Members

Dr. Vanessa M. Gattis
Tom Gordy
Arshad Hussain
Nancy Jean-Louis

Donnell E. Johns, Sr.
Cheryl S. H. Lamar
Wayne Murphy
Tim Parrish

Present: Commissioners Dr. Vanessa M. Gattis (Virtual), Tom Gordy (Virtual), Arshad Hussain, Cheryl S.H. Lamar, Donnell E. Johns, Sr., Wayne Murphy, Tim Parrish; Director Joe Gilkerson, Admins Stacy Anderson and Veronica Marquez and no citizens. Vice Chair Tim Parrish called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Administrative Comments

- Joseph Gilkerson discussed Veterans Care Centers and will have more information from Nikki Brown at a later date.

Minutes

- Minutes of November 04, 2021 were approved (Murphy-moved/Johns Sr.-seconded/Unanimous).

Public Comment Time

- None.

Next Meetings

- Discuss Veteran holiday observances and events document.
- Guest speakers from Willing Warriors and Women Giving Back.

New Business

- Courtney Tierney attended the meeting virtually to discuss Veteran homelessness in the County. Also discussed option for Commissioners to speak with juveniles from JDC regarding military.
- Discussed Standing Rules and will table further discussion until March meeting. Reviewed Memorial Wall Resolution. Discussed day to recognize, deadline for submission, Line of Duty, National Guard status (when deployed), and Korean War date. Will table further discussion until March meeting.

- Discussed Quarterly Service Project and will table further discussion until March meeting.
- Discussed Veterans Information Fair and will table further discussion until March meeting.

Commissioners Time

- Commissioner Gordy – Discussed a full agenda for March meeting and would like to hold a work session later in the month.
- Commissioner Murphy – Discussed MVP program (Merging Vets and Players) and he has put in a request for more information from organization. Will report anything he hears back to Commission.
- Commissioner Parrish – Discussed new Washington Commanders location. Discussed moving toward first 40,000 Veterans retirement not being taxed in the Commonwealth. Would like to help people understand further down the road.
- Commissioner Lamar – Questioned if there was a budget for the Commission and whether the Commission can seek grants. Would like to look into summer programs for Veteran children as well as summer employment. Discussed homelessness early intervention for Veterans and families.

The meeting adjourned at 8:39 pm. (Gordy-motion/Johns Sr.-seconded/unanimous)