



**CITY OF NORTH LAS VEGAS
VETERANS COMMUNITY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
SUMMARY MINUTES**

February 28, 2024
5:00 p.m., Council Chambers,
2250 Las Vegas Boulevard North,
North Las Vegas, Nevada 89030

Website - <http://www.cityofnorthlasvegas.com>

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Kelly called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

VERIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN MEETING LAW

City Clerk Jackie Rodgers confirmed compliance with Open Meeting Law.

ROLL CALL

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairman Kelly
Vice Chair Holcomb (Absent)
Member Vega
Member Kamanao
Member Allen (Arrived: 5:12 P.M.)

STAFF PRESENT

Chief Deputy City Attorney Christopher Craft
Veterans Services Coordinator Walter Lescano
Community Services and Engagement Director Wilson Ramos
City Clerk Jackie Rodgers
Chief Deputy City Clerk Cherry Lawson
Deputy City Clerk II Daisy Rivera

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - BY INVITATION

Led by **Chairman Kelly**

PRESENTATIONS

Certificate of Recognition to Providers

PUBLIC FORUM

Chairman Kelly opened the meeting to receive public comment. No comments were received.

AGENDA

1. Veterans Community Commission Regular Meeting of February 28, 2024. (For Possible Action; Recommendation – Approve)

MOTION: *Member Vega moved and Member Kamao second the motion approving the agenda as presented.*

ACTION: **APPROVED**

AYES: 3

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

CONSENT AGENDA

2. Veterans Community Commission Special Meeting Minutes of July 20, 2023. (For Possible Action; Recommendation – Approve)

MOTION: *Member Kamanao moved and Member Vega second the motion approving the Consent Agenda as presented.*

ACTION: **APPROVED**

AYES: 3

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

BUSINESS

3. Discussion of 2023 Activities Conducted by the Veterans Resource Center. (For Discussion)

Veterans Service coordinator Walter Lescano provided updates of the activities of the Center in 2023 stating that as of December 2023, 776 veterans and their families in the area of mental health and wellness, housing, employment, education, finance and legal received services. From those services provided, 104 were workshops. In addition, we held 34 peer support groups and six events that included the operation Family Christmas, Veterans Day Parade Center's Anniversary Block Party, Memorial Day Barbecue, job fairs, and Resource Fair.

Members commended **Mr. Lescano** and staff for the work that they have done on behalf of the veterans in the area.

4. Discussion and/or Approval of Events for Upcoming Year. (For Possible Action; Recommendation – Discuss and Approve)

Chairman Kelly reported on the several past and upcoming events including: Women's event in March, Children's event in April, Resource Fair Block Party during the summer, Hispanic event for September, Turkey Drive for November, GI Operation Christmas Family for December, and Veteran Parade for November. There was a consensus to conduct additional research on the events discussed before setting them on the calendar.

MOTION: *Chairman Kelly moved and Member Allen second the motion to table approving a calendar of events.*

ACTION: **APPROVED**

AYES: 4

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

5. Discussion and/or Approval of Greater Collaboration with Nevada Department of Veterans Services and United States Department of Veterans Affairs. (For Possible Action; Recommendation – Discuss and Approve)

Chairman Kelly stated the Commission had expected to staff from both of these agencies attending the meeting. However, indicated that Nevada Department of Veterans Services (NDVS) are going through transition at this time. The Commission is committed to working with Nevada Department of Veteran Services, as well as the VA, and providing service when needed.

MOTION: *Chairman Kelly moved and Member Vega second the motion to table any approval of collaboration documents.*

ACTION: APPROVED

AYES: 4

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

STAFF COMMENTS

No report or comments were offered.

COMMISSION COMMENTS

No report or comments were offered.

PUBLIC FORUM

Chairman Kelly opened the meeting to receive public comment. The following individuals provided comments.

Evelyn Pacheco, Nevada Women in Trades 3540 W. Sahara Ave., #417, Las Vegas, NV 89102 stated she is an Army veteran, and the Commander of American Legion Post 51; first female and African-American woman to make Commander. She is also the President of Nevada Women and Trades, and the first African-American woman to obtain a plumber's license in the State of Nevada. She spoke of the availability of resources for veterans to receive job and skill training to prepare them for careers in the trade fields. She invited the Commission to attend the American Legion Post on March 30th from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. for a community event, and March 9th they are hosting the Women's Veterans Conference at the Aliante Resort, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Christina Costanzo, 3305 N. Rome Blvd, #1131 N. Las Vegas, NV 89086 stated this is her first time attending the meeting, and that she moved to town to be close to the Veterans Center. She appreciates the work that **Mr. Lescano** does and is grateful that there is a center that supports veterans.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Kelly adjourned the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 5:26 P.M.

CERTIFICATION

I certify that the foregoing are true and correct minutes of the City of North Las Vegas Veterans Community Commission Regular Meeting held on May 22, 2024. I further certify that a quorum was present.

Jackie Rodgers, City Clerk