



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

October 23, 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

Chairwoman Holcomb called the meeting into order at 5:04 P.M.

WELCOME

Chairwoman Holcomb welcomed all who were attending the meeting.

ROLL CALL

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Chairwoman Marie Holcomb
Vice Chairman Jimmy Vega
Commissioner Dan Kamaano
Commissioner Marvin Parker
Commissioner Phillip Allen (Arrived: 5:15 P.M.)

STAFF PRESENT

Chief Deputy City Attorney Noel Eidsmore
Veteran Coordinator Walter Lescano
City Clerk Jackie Rodgers
Deputy City Clerk Lead Daisy Rivera

VERIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN MEETING LAW

City Clerk, Jackie Rodgers confirmed compliance with Open Meeting Law.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - BY INVITATION

Led by **Commissioner Dan Kamao**

PUBLIC FORUM

City Clerk, Jackie Rodgers opened the meeting to receive public comments. No comments offered.

AGENDA

1. Veterans Community Commission Special Meeting of October 23, 2024. (For Possible Action; Recommendation – Approve)

MOTION: *Commissioner Kamao moved and Vice Chairman Vega seconded to approve the Agenda as published.*

ACTION: **APPROVED**

AYES: 4

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

CONSENT AGENDA

2. Veterans Community Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of August 28, 2024. (For Possible Action; Recommendation – Approve)

MOTION: *Chairwoman Holcomb moved and Commissioner Kamao seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.*

ACTION: **APPROVED**

AYES: 5

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

BUSINESS

3. Presentation by Court Administrator, Erin Tellez, of the North Las Vegas Veterans Municipal Court on the Purpose of CARE Court and How to Engage the Community. (For Discussion Only)

Court Administrator Erin Tellez discussed the Community Approach to Rehabilitation and Engagement (CARE) Program and the Veterans Treatment Court.

Commissioner Kamao directed Ms. Tellez to add Space Force to the military branches served. **Commissioner Parker** requested that individuals who commit new infractions not identify as veterans and asked who provided the vocational training and who to contact with any questions. **Vice Chairman Vega** asked how many participants are in the Veterans Treatment Court and about the graduation rate. **Commissioner Allen** asked if alternative sentencing was an option for participants.

ACTION: DISCUSSED

4. Final Discussion of 2024 Thanksgiving Turkey Drive in November. (For Possible Action; Recommendation – Approve)

Vice Chairman Vega stated freezers would be provided for the turkeys and the donation drop off would be November 13 - November 23, 2024. **Veteran Coordinator Walter Lescano** stated that nominated families in need would receive the turkeys and would be handed out the week of Thanksgiving through the Veteran's Resource Center.

ACTION: DISCUSSED

5. Final Discussion of 2024 Operation North Las Vegas GI Family Christmas in December. (For Possible Action; Recommendation - Approve)

Ms. Rodgers stated the item was agendaized for action, however it was for discussion only.

Vice Chairman Vega stated this was the third year for Operation North Las Vegas GI Family Christmas. After vetting, 10 families would be selected for receiving Christmas gifts. **Mr. Lescano** stated family nominations would be made by the public and on Christmas Eve the gifts would be distributed.

ACTION: DISCUSSED

6. Final Discussion on Veterans Day Parade 2024 to Include the City of North Las Vegas Participation. (For Possible Action; Recommendation – Approve)

Ms. Rodgers stated the item was agendaized for action, however it was for discussion only.

Mr. Lescano discussed the 2024 Veterans Day Parade. **Commissioner Parker** asked if volunteers must be veterans.

ACTION: DISCUSSED

7. Discussion on Implementing a Veteran of the Quarter and an ROTC Cadet of the Quarter. (For Discussion Only)

Chairwoman Holcomb stated she would like to implement a Veteran of the Quarter and a Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) Cadet of the Quarter award. **Vice Chairman Vega** asked if the honor would be extended to a veteran and cadet of the year. **Commissioner Allen** asked how the selection process would work. **Commissioner Parker** asked how detailed this particular discussion would be. **Chief Deputy City Attorney Noel Eidsmore** stated that per the Nevada Open Meeting Law, there was no issue with discussing award implementation, but there was an issue with when deliberation occurred and how the final decision was made, which must be public. **Ms. Rodgers** recommended since all Commissioners were present, it would be appropriate to discuss now.

Vice Chairman Vega suggested to use the calendar year for quarterly awards, rather than the military fiscal year. **Commissioner Parker** asked what the key selection criteria should be and how can the VCC align the ROTC Cadet of the Quarter program with broader community objectives. **Chairwoman Holcomb** stated the state of Nevada has a similar program for Veterans and ROTC and the VCC should model their program after the state's.

Ms. Rodgers suggested each Commissioner submit their thoughts and ideas individually to **Mr. Lescano** who could make recommendations at the next Commission meeting.

ACTION: DISCUSSION ONLY

STAFF COMMENTS

No comments offered.

COMMISSION COMMENTS

Commissioner Kamao stated he received a phone call from a concerned veteran regarding the October 9, 2024 Planning Commission, specifically the discussion for the Tunnel to Towers project, and asked why the VCC was not consulted before the project went before the Planning Commission. **Mr. Lescano** stated he also was unaware of the Tunnel to Towers project brought before the Planning Commission but he would consult with Community Services and Engagement Director Wilson Ramos to ensure communications on veteran issues be shared directly with the VCC. **Commissioner Kamao** asked if there was a way to encourage more community involvement in VCC meetings.

PUBLIC FORUM

Christina Thomas, 2609 Alpenhof Ct, North Las Vegas, NV discussed the Tunnel to Towers project.

Clara Thomas, 128 Lions Den Ave, North Las Vegas, NV discussed the Tunnel to Towers project.

Vincent Palmieri, 9901 Trailwood Dr, Las Vegas, NV asked about veteran's housing.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairwoman Holcomb adjourned the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 6:31 P.M.

CERTIFICATION

I certify that the foregoing are true and correct minutes of the City of North Las Vegas Veterans Community Commission Special Meeting held on October 23, 2024. I further certify that a quorum was present.

Jackie Rodgers, City Clerk