



**Minutes  
Tempe Veteran's Commission  
December 1, 2015**

Minutes for the Tempe Veteran's Commission Meeting held on December 1, 2015 at 6:00 PM at the Tempe Public Library Board Room, 3500 S. Rural Road, Tempe, Arizona 85282.

**Commission Members Present**

Keith Finkle, Chair  
Michelle Bravo, Vice-Chair  
Troy Friedman  
Dale Groen  
David Lucier  
Patricia Little-Upah  
Laura Skotnicki, telephonically

**Commission Members Absent**

Joanna Sweatt  
Thomas Winkel  
Scott Essex  
Bryan Durham

**Staff Present**

Valerie Kime Trujillo, Human Services Deputy Director

**Public Appearance**

Steve Yamamori, Vice President, Veterans Initiatives - Maricopa Community College  
Edward C. Logan – Lt. Col. USAF, Retired  
Mario Aguirre – Employment Resource Center Outreach Coordinator - Arizona Coalition for Military Families

**Item 1 – Meeting Called to Order at 6:03 PM**

**Item 2 – Public Appearances**

## **Steve Yamamori – Maricopa Community College Foundation Veterans Initiatives**

Maricopa Community College Foundation will be launching the Veterans' Success Project, a multimillion dollar campaign to support veterans. An event will be held at Gateway Community College on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. They are also working in conjunction with East Valley Veteran's Center to build a West Valley Veteran's Center to assure that there are resources for all veterans valley wide. The Foundation would be interested in a member of the Veteran's Commission to be on their Advisory Committee.

## **Ed Logan, Retired Air Force – President of ASU Alumni Veterans' Chapter and Multi-Association Veg Chapter; Vice President of Luke AFB Air Force Association**

Mr. Logan recently joined the Tempe Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee. He provided the Commission with handouts on a memorial being built for 30+ Arizona State University Sun Devils who have died at war. Fundraising has begun; Challenge Coins are available online. There will be an Honors Stole Ceremony in which all graduating ASU veterans will be honored on December 14, 2015 .Mr. Logan expressed interest in the vacant seat on the Commission, and submitted a completed application.

## **Mario Aguirre – Arizona Coalition for Military Families**

Mario Aguirre is representing Thomas Winkel, and will be replacing his seat on the Commission. Commission will be attending navigation training. City of Tempe is recognized as Veteran's Employer supportive city. He can provide a list of all Tempe businesses that have completed Veteran's Employer Supportive Training.

### **Item 3 – Review of Previous Minutes**

Motion by Chair Keith Finkle to approve minutes; approved by all present Commission Members. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Item 4 – Follow-up on 2016 Commission Members**

Chair Keith Finkle is putting a proposal together to re-look at requirements for the ASU representative from Tillman Center for Veteran's Commission. He would like to broaden the scope. He will work with Naomi Farrell, Human Services Director, to get applications in and approval for new Veteran's Commissioners.

### **Item 5 – Follow-up on Website**

Chair Keith Finkle encouraged the Commission to submit pictures and events to [tempeveteranscommission@gmail.com](mailto:tempeveteranscommission@gmail.com) with source information. There should be good photos on the Healing Fields and other Veteran's Day Celebrations. Chair Finkle will schedule a meeting with Human Services Public Information Officer Marie Chapple-Camacho for website launch in January. Once website is live, formal announcement through Tempe channel 11.

### **Item 6 –Troy Friedman - East Valley "Stand Up" Event**

The East Valley “Stand Up” event is tentatively scheduled for April 2, 2016. The event will be focused on employment. The East Valley Veteran’s Center is working in conjunction with Glendale Community College and Rio Salado for a \$5,000 grant to support the event. There was interest in expanding to other East Valley cities, i.e. Mesa, Gilbert, and Chandler. Commissioner Friedman is taking the lead on “Stand Up”. Publicity could be generated in January with the launch of the website. There is an organizational meeting tentatively scheduled for January 13, 2016.

### **Item 7 – Expiring Appointments**

Commission Members Thomas Winkel and Joanna Sweatt are terming out. Bryan Durham will be renewing for another term. Thomas Winkel has submitted Mario Aguirre as his replacement.

### **Item 8 – 2016 City Council Presentation**

Chair Keith Finkle suggested a presentation to the City Council after the website launches in January, and no later than April 2, 2016, to give feedback on Year One of the Veteran’s Commission. Presentation will include accomplishments and future goals.

### **Item 9 – Suggested Items for Future Agenda**

- Veteran’s Employer Supportive Training
- Navigator Training
- East Valley “Stand Up” update
- Website update
- Presentation to City Council
- Board requirements
- Legislative update
- Veteran’s Housing Project update
- Invite Councilmember Robin Arredondo-Savage to next meeting
- Invite individuals involved in the Housing Project for update

### **Item 10 – Commission Member Announcements**

- Massing of colors at Marcos de Niza on December 4, 2015 at 7:15 AM
- Veteran’s Memorial at Tempe Beach Park on December 7, 2015 at 10:00 AM
- Yellow Ribbon events (pre-deployment) – December 5, 2015 and December 12, 2015 at Papago Park
  - Highlight Tempe families

### **Item 11 – Next Meeting – January 4, 2016**

Monthly meetings as of January 2016

### **Item 12 – Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 7:04 PM**

Next meeting to be held on January 4, 2016 6:00 PM, Tempe Library Board Room, at 3500 S. Rural Road, Tempe, Arizona 85282.

Minutes prepared by: Valerie Kime Trujillo/Melissa Placencia  
Reviewed by: Naomi Farrell

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Keith Finkle,  
Chair, Tempe Veterans Commission