



COMMUNICATION AND EVENTS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT

Monday, August 29, 2022 – 5:00 pm

Hosted Remotely via MS Teams

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

BILL BARNICKEL, DOUGLAS BULLARD, JASON CHITTAVONG, DEBORAH DACUMOS, COURTNEY ELLINGTON, COURTNEY MILLER, NICHOLAS RUSANOFF, RAYMOND WONG

CHAIR

NICOHOLAS RUSANOFF

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Nicholas Rusanoff called the meeting to order at 5:05pm. He welcomed committee members and members of the public to the first meeting of the Communication and Events Committee. He noted meeting is being recorded through Microsoft Teams, and the video will be posted to the VAC website.

ATTENDANCE

VAC Secretary called attendance:

PRESENT: Commissioners Rusanoff (Chair), Barnickel, Chittavong, Dacumos, Miller, Wong

ABSENT: Commissioners Bullard, Ellington

Quorum confirmed.

WELCOME AND OVERVIEW

Welcoming remarks by the committee chair to open the first meeting of the Communication and Events Committee.

- As part of his remarks, the chair noted that as a newly formed committee, meeting procedures are a work in progress. As learning evolves, meeting procedures may change. In the meantime, the chair appreciates the committee's patience, and welcomes suggestions or advice. Please email comments to the VAC secretary.

NEW BUSINESS

Fleet Week Event Plans and Announcements [Discussion – 10 minutes]:

- Fleet Week Interfaith Blessing of the Fleet – Commissioner Dacumos updated the committee that this event will occur on Sunday, October 9 at 9:00am. After discussion, it



was determined Commissioner Dacumos will confirm the event schedule (which is not yet finalized), and draft an invitation to Veterans Affairs Commissioners and District Supervisors. Draft invitation will be sent to VAC secretary for approval by the commission.

- Navy Band – Update from Commissioner Barnickel: The Navy Band will perform the first week of October at Jefferson Grammar School, on the corner of 19th and Irving. Date and Time TBD. Commissioner will update committee with event flyer when it is completed.
- Chair Rusanoff recommended consolidating these Fleet Week events into one invitation for the VAC's review and approval to send to commissioners, supervisors, etc.

Veterans Day Plans [Discussion – 10 minutes]:

- Operation Green Light for Veterans Day – Commissioner Chittavong summarized this event for the committee, noting it was started last year by the NACVSO with the goal of raising awareness of veterans service needs by lighting buildings green from November 7 thru 13. After discussion, Commissioner Chittavong volunteered to contact City Hall with a request to light the building green for four days in November. He will update the committee with City Hall's response. He further noted the VAC Legislative and Rules Committee will assist by drafting a letter to local politicians. The chair asked for committee volunteers to help Commissioner Chittavong with this project. Commissioners Miller and Dacumos volunteered to assist. On a final note, the chair requested Commissioner Chittavong send an update to the VAC secretary by Friday, 9/2 with a progress update on contacting City Hall. Commissioner Chittavong agreed and added he will also send a project task list.
- Veterans Day Parade – Commissioner Wong updated the committee that an event permit was submitted to the City and is pending approval. Chair Rusanoff responded by asking Commissioner Wong to share any further developments about the parade at next month's committee meeting. Further, Commissioner Wong noted event organizers will welcome the presence of Veterans Affairs Commissioners at parade reviewing stand. Chair Rusanoff noted this information will be shared with the Executive Team to include in the agenda of the next VAC meeting on September 13.

Review process to have events sanctioned by the VAC. [Discussion – 10 minutes]:

- Chair Rusanoff reminded the committee that events are not endorsed or sanctioned by the Veterans Affairs Commission until reviewed and voted on by the commission during a public meeting. However, the commission can assist with raising awareness about community veterans related events by posting general event information to the VAC website. The chair asked if any committee members had recommendations for events to present to the VAC for endorsement.



- No recommendations of events for VAC endorsement, however Commissioners Barnickel and Dacumos will send veterans related events information to VAC secretary for posting to the website.

Recommended topics for future agenda items [Discussion – 10 minutes]:

- Chair opened the floor to committee for suggestions on future meeting agenda items. No suggestions were shared during the meeting. Chair Rusanoff advised members they can email suggestions to the VAC secretary up until one week prior to next month's meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- No public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

- Chair adjourned meeting at 5:41pm

The next meeting of the Communication and Events Committee will be held remotely on Monday, September 26, 2022 at 5:00pm.

Meeting agendas and minutes are posted to the Veterans Affairs Commission website.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Murphy

Executive Secretary

SF Veterans Affairs Commission