



County of El Dorado
Meeting Agenda
Veteran Affairs Commission

Department of Veteran Affairs
 130 Placerville Drive, Suite B
 Placerville CA 95667
 www.edcgov.us/veterans
 Telephone: 530-621-5892
 Fax: 530-621-2218

Todd Smith, District I – Alternate John Poimiroo
 Chris Cockrell, District II – Alternate Roger Reynolds
 Kurt Raffetto, District III – Alternate Josh Castro
 Ken Welch, District IV – Alternate Tim Thompson
 Daniel Browne, Jr., District V – Alternate Phillip Houseworth
 Lance Poinsett, Acting Secretary Ex-Officio

Yasmin Hichborn, Acting Recording Clerk of Veteran Affairs Commission

Thursday, April 8, 2021 @ 1200 hours

NOTICE OF VIRTUAL MEETING -- ACCESS VIA ZOOM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/94103137431?pwd=WmlMTkl4b2RvRVZ2UThHbjE3VnBoUT09>

By Telephone: 669 900 6833

Meeting ID: 941 0313 7431 Password: 386662

Public Participation Instructions: To comply with social distancing requirements, participation will be handled remotely.

If you are joining the meeting via zoom and wish to make a comment on an item, press the "raise a hand" button. If you are joining the meeting by phone, press *9 to indicate a desire to make a comment. The meeting coordinator will call you by the last three digits of your phone number when it is your turn to speak. Speakers will be limited to 3 minutes.

Veteran Affairs Commission Agendas and Minutes are available for viewing in the Veteran Memorial Building lobby at 130 Placerville Drive, Placerville CA 95667 and online www.edcgov.us/Government/Veterans/Pages/

I. CALL TO ORDER - PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

II. ROLL CALL

District	Present	Alternates	Absent
I	Todd Smith	John Poimiroo	
II		Roger Reynolds	Chris Cockrell
III	Kurt Raffetto	Joshua Castro	
IV	Ken Welch	Tim Thompson	
V	Daniel Browne	Phillip Houseworth	

III. INTRODUCTION OF HHSA STAFF

Patty Moley, HHSA, Asst. Director of Self-Sufficiency and Community Services; Ranell Brown, HHSA Deputy Director, Community Services, Richard Todd, HHSA Program Manager; Yasmin Hichborn, HHSA Administrative Analyst II; Lance Poinsett, Sr. Veteran Services Officer, Maki Ganno, Accountant, Karen Feathers, Assistant to Supervisor Wendy Thomas, Cindy Munt, Assistant to Supervisor John Hidahl, David Zelinsky; Veterans Advocate, Gary Campbell, EDC Veterans Alliance

V. ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

(All items on the Consent Calendar are to be approved by one motion unless a Commission member requests separate action on a specific item including moving items to or from the Consent Calendar and adopt the Agenda and the Consent Calendar for discussion. At the appropriate time as called by the Chair, members of the public may make a comment on matters on the Consent Calendar prior to action.

Public Comment was moved to the end of the meeting, after Item XV. Good of the Order.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

A motion was made by Dan Browne and seconded by Ken Welch to approve the March 11, 2021 Minutes. The motion was approved 5-0.

VII. CONSENT CALENDAR

No action items.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR**VIII. GUEST SPEAKERS:****EMMA NEVILLE, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
TAHOE COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS**

Emma Neville was unable to attend the meeting and will be rescheduled.

KATHLEEN ELLERTSON, FOUNDER, VETERAN ART INSTITUTE

Ms. Ellertson provided information on the Veterans Art Institute. The website (www.veteranartinstitute.org) features art created by veterans.

IX. ACTION ITEMS

None

X. EX-OFFICIO REPORT – RECEIVE AND FILE (Poinsett)

Lance Poinsett provided the Ex-Officio Report.

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS – RECEIVE AND FILE

- **TOT (Transient Occupancy Tax)** (Raffetto/Houseworth)
Kurt Raffetto reported the TOT Committee is recommending increasing the maximum for the mini-grant to \$5,000. This will be included on the May VAC agenda. Kurt will contact the Veterans of Foreign Wars or the Veteran Memorial Building to see if there is funding available for a storage shed.
- **RULES** (Poimiroo/Houseworth)
 - **SPECIAL COMMITTEE – HOUSING** (Membership TBD)
John Poimiroo announced Ken Welch and Josh Castro as the members of the Housing Committee.
- **LEGISLATIVE** (Smith/Raffetto)—No Report.
- **TRANSPORTATION** (Browne/Thompson)
Dan Browne is recruiting volunteers to drive veterans to medical appointments in the South Lake Tahoe area.
- **BUDGET** (Houseworth/Reynolds)—No Report.

-
- **EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT** (Cockrell/Browne)
Dan Browne is conducting outreach and collaborating with the Lake Tahoe Unified School District to reinstate the ROTC Program.
- **SOCIAL MEDIA** (Reynolds/Poimiroo)
Roger Reynolds reported an increase in visits to the webpage.
John Poimiroo read his letter to Ms. Alice Anderson.
John Poimiroo requested \$400 to purchase boosts for specific posts. This will increase viewing by approximately 3,000 to 4,000 viewers. Roger Reynolds made a motion to change this amount to \$500. The motion was seconded by Dan Browne. The motion was approved 5-0. A funding source for these boosts will be researched.

XII. **COMMUNICATIONS' REPORTS – RECEIVE AND FILE**

- **VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING – VETERANS HOUSE COUNCIL** (Reynolds)
John Poimiroo attended the meeting in place of Roger Reynolds.
- **AMERICAN LEGION SERVICE OFFICER** (Zelinsky)
David Zelinsky is looking for another volunteer driver. He also recognized Deputy Buckner and the HOT Team for our work in the community.
- **EDC VETERANS ALLIANCE** (Poimiroo)
Gary Campbell reported that the Memorial Day Ceremony will be held virtually this year. Social media and Channel 2 will broadcast the ceremony. The Salute to Valor event has been cancelled. A limited ceremony in honor of Captain Jacobs will be held and a plaque will be placed at the Veterans Monument.
- **EL DORADO VETERAN RESOURCES**—No Report.
- **REGIONAL VETERAN EVENTS**—No Report.

XIII. **OLD BUSINESS.**

- A. **REQUIREMENTS FOR IN PERSON MEETINGS** (Todd)
Rich Todd announced that the county will be moving to the less restrictive Orange Tier on April 7, 2021. Meetings will continue to be held virtually until direction on in-person meetings is provided by the County Health Officer.

XIV. **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. **NO VET GOES HUNGRY** (Poimiroo)
John Poimiroo and Dan Browne met with the Vice President of Tahoe Community College. A county-wide list of mentors for veterans is being established. Contact John if you are interested in becoming a mentor. The No Vet Goes Hungry Program is bringing prepared meals up to South Lake Tahoe. Josh Castro reported 100 non-perishable food bags were donated to the Placerville office and will be sent up to South Lake Tahoe. Roger Reynolds will check for additional sources of food.
- B. **IMPLICIT BIAS TRAINING** (Moley)
Patty Moley updated the Commission on the Implicit Bias Training. A training invite will be sent to all Commissioners. The training is approximately 2 hours long.
- C. **DISTRIBUTION OF CALVET VETERANS RESOURCE BOOKS** (Poimiroo)
CalVet Resource Books are available at the Veteran Services office in Placerville. Commissioners can pick up books and distribute as necessary. Books will also be available at the Tahoe office.
- D. **VETERAN-OWNED BUSINESS STICKER** (Cockrell)
John Poimiroo reported on this item. Ideas are still being developed.

XV. GOOD OF THE ORDER (Additional Commission and HHS Staff Comments)

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT (Public Comment is limited to three minutes per person.)
R. Michaelson, J. Connolly

XVI. NEXT MEETING LOCATION, DATE & TIME
Thursday, May 13, 2021 @ 1200 Hours

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 0109 Hours.