

City of Doral Military Affairs Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 1st, 2022 6:00 p.m. Doral Government Center 1st Floor Multipurpose Room 8401 N.W. 53rd Terrace Doral, FL 33166

 Call to Order Meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m.

2. Roll Call of Board Members

William 'Bill' Watts, Chair Present
Deborah Prather, Vice Chair Present
Christopher Flynn, Secretary Present
Ricardo 'Rich' Bautista, Board Member Present
Jason Juarez, Board Member Present

Staff present:

Edgard Estrada, Director, Code Compliance

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Public Comments

No public present. Chair Watts reads letter addressed to the Board from Acting Chief of Police Raul Ubieta. The Acting Chief of Police thanked the Board for their recognition of officers that participated in the Family Day Event 2021.

5. Approval of Minutes

February 1st, 2022 **Motion to approve the February 1st meeting minutes** made by Member Bautista and seconded by Member Juarez. By consensus, motion passes unanimously.

6. Discussion Items

a. Discussion: Adopt a Unit/Attending March 29 event with US Southern Command

Chair Watts informed the Board that Ms. Jennifer Brande, Community Relations Chief for U.S. Southern Command, is no longer with the Command. The Board is seeking new point of contact. Member Juarez will pursue.

b. Discussion: Proclamation for GYSGT Muriel Diaz-Camano (sp)

Member Juarez reads Proclamation for GYSGT Diaz-Camano. The Proclamation is set to go before the next City Council Meeting for approval. If approved, it is expected to be publicly read at the following Council Meeting, April 13. Chair Watts has requested Board members to be present for the evening meeting.

c. Discussion: Sponsor a Veteran Banners

Board expressed interest in pursuing banners this year. Chair Watts will reach out to the company that previously made the banners. City point of contact will be Maggie Santos, Communications Director.

Motion for Board to move forward with Sponsor a Veteran banners made by Vice Chair Prather and seconded by Secretary Flynn. By consensus, motion passes unanimously.

d. Discussion: VFW Doral Chapter

Member Bautista discussed membership requirements before starting a chapter. 35 members needed for a local chapter; 10 veterans have signed up. Must be a current VFW member to sign up for local chapter. Member Bautista will look to recruiting through U.S. Southern Command to find additional members. Various meeting locations discussed if a local chapter is approved.

Motion for Board to move forward with investigating the possibility of opening a Doral VFW Chapter made by Member Bautista, seconded by Vice Chair Prather. By consensus, motion passes unanimously.

e. Open Discussion

Chair Watts noted prior discussion with the City Manager that none of the Military Affairs Advisory Board members attended the city's Veteran's Day event. Noted that no one on the Board was advised of an event, the date, time, or location, for members to attend. The Board otherwise notes its purpose design is to support and attend, as available, any veteran related event held by the City of Doral, as the Board is advised of events.

Chair Watts noted in that discussion he proposed the next Veterans Day events for 2022, that the Family Day Event would be held on Saturday following Veterans Day. The City Manager suggested to hold all events together on Friday.

The Board discussed specific reasons to continue with the Family Day Event to be held on the following Saturday, intended for maximum participation of veterans and family members.

Locations discussed, to include Veterans Park and returning to Glades Park.

7. Discussion of next meeting agenda items

Memorial Day Event Spring Military Gala Veterans Day/Family Day Event Preliminaries VFW Doral Chapter Updates

8. Future Meeting Date

Tuesday, April 5, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.
 Board confirmed next meeting date. Member Juarez noted he is not expecting to be present.

9. Adjournment
Meeting adjourns at 6:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Flynn, Secretary

Motion to approve the minutes of the March 1st 2022, Military Affairs Advisory Board Meeting made by Board Member and seconded by Board Member

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William 'Bill' Watts, Chair Deborah Prather, Vice Chair Christopher Flynn, Secretary Ricardo 'Rich' Bautista, Board Member Jason Juarez, Board Member

APPROVED and ADOPTED this 5th day of April 2022.

William 'Bill' Watts, Chair