



# Veterans' Affairs Committee

Wednesday, February 12, 2025 - 6:00 pm  
Virtual Meeting via TEAMS

## Legal Action Report

### 1. Call to Order / Establish a Quorum

Virtual online meeting called to order by Rocio "Rosie" Kary at 6:03 p.m. Those present and absent were:

#### Present:

Alicia Fuller  
Ann Hollis

Bruce Hayes

Lorraine Obregon

Marcia Wohlhueter  
Marlon Ruiz

Rocio "Rosie" Kary

Terry Byron  
Tom Tunks

William Burks

#### Representing:

Tucson Veterans Serving Veterans

Military Officers Association of America  
Tucson Chapter

American Legion McCulloch-Wagner, Post 109 -

**Arrived at 6:22 p.m.**

Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary Cactus Unit  
2 - **Arrived at 6:06 p.m.**

American Legion Auxiliary Oro Valley Unit 132  
Military Order of the World Wars, National Senior  
Vice Commander-In-Chief

Women in Military Service for America Memorial  
Foundation

Marine Corps League, Marana Night Hawk 72

Marine Corps League, Marana Night Hawk 72 -

**Arrived at 6:14 p.m.**

Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 26 - **Arrived  
at 6:24 p.m.**

#### Absent:

#### Representing:

#### Staff Members Present:

Amari Leon  
Francisco Denogean

City Clerk's Office, Recording Secretary  
City Clerk's Office, Recording Secretary

### 2. Invocation

The invocation was provided by Chair Rocio "Rosie" Kary.

### 3. Introduction of Guests – Update/Discussion

- a. Jennifer Gutowski, Southern Arizona Veterans Affairs Health Care System Ms. Gutowski informed the Committee about a virtual veterans' fair on February 13, 2025 from 4-5 p.m. being hosted by the VA she also provided update that the VA hospital is still under construction.

Discussion was held, and no formal action was taken.

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- b. Matthew Langseth - City of Tucson Veterans Coordinator

No update was given.

- c. Margo Susco, Tucson Police Department

No update was given.

- d. Sarah Horvath, Kino Memorial Park

No update was given.

- e. Arlethe Rios, Office of Arizona Senator Mark Kelly

No update was given.

**4. Approval of Legal Action Report for January 8, 2025**

It was moved by Commissioner Byron, duly seconded, and passed by a roll call vote of 7 to 0 (Commissioners Burks, Hayes, and Tunk absent), to approve the Legal Action Report from the January 8, 2025 meeting.

**5. Treasurer's Report**

Commissioner Byron stated that the beginning balance at the start of February 1, 2025 was \$2,590.29. Commissioner Byron reported that they spent \$1,177.05 on Operation Exodus 2024 and \$191.52 on a pallet of water for the Military Lounge, there were no donations, leaving a current balance of \$1,221.72.

It was moved by Commissioner Ruiz, duly seconded, and passed by a roll call vote of 8 to 0 (Commissioners Burks and Hayes absent), to approve the financial report as presented.

**6. Committee Reports**

**a. Arizona Veterans' Memorial Cemetery**

Commissioner Hollis informed the committee about events being held, one of them being Missing in America on Saturday, April 12, 2025, at 10 a.m. and there will be a Golf Tournament being hosted at Randolph Park on June 14, 2025, starting at 10 a.m.

Discussion was held, and no formal action was taken.

**b. Arizona Department of Veterans' Services**

No update was given.

**c. Military Lounge and Operation Exodus**

Commissioner Byron and Commissioner Tunks delivered items in December and will reach out to James Robertson from the Military Lounge.

No discussion was held, and no formal action was taken.

**d. Memorial for Vietnam Veteran Memorial Park**

Commissioner Byron briefed the committee on a new park/area for the Veterans Memorials located at the new Mosaic Quarter and that a new Veterans Park/Memorial area could be coming in 2027.

No discussion was held, and no formal action was taken.

**e. Four Chaplains Ceremony 2025**

Commissioner Byron informed the Committee the Four Chaplains Ceremony went well and was bigger than years past. The park also donated a Portable toilet and hand washing station for the event.

No discussion was held, and no formal action was taken.

**7. Nighthawk 72 Events/Memorial – Update/Discussion**

Commissioner Tunks mentioned again the 25th Annual Nighthawk 72 Memorial Service for the 19 Marines who lost their lives at the Marana Regional Airport. The ceremony is scheduled for April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 10 a.m. with a candlelight ceremony to follow at 8 p.m.

Discussion was held, and no formal action was taken.

**8. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Vietnam War – Update/Discussion**

No update was given.

**9. VAC Social Media Presence**

Chair Kary reminded the committee not to forget to share VAC events on their social media pages on Facebook and would like to see if the VAC can start a LinkedIn page for the committee.

No discussion was held, and no formal action was taken.

**10. Outreach to Mayor and Council – Update/Discussion**

Commissioner Ruiz will send invitations for the MOWW National Convention being held in August 2025.

**11. VAC Fundraising Strategies**

Commissioner Byron will send out fundraising letters for the VAC.

Commissioner Ruiz will look into the Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW) possibly getting a table for VAC fundraising and getting the word out on the committee.

**12. Veteran's Day Parade/Memorials – Update/Discussion**

Commissioner Byron informed the committee that the Veterans Day Parade Foundation had a meeting in January and mentioned everything went very well for the Parade and they are getting ready to celebrate 250 years of service.

**13. In-person / Hybrid Meeting – Update/Discussion**

The VAC voted on staying virtual or switching to a hybrid meeting. It was moved by Commissioner Ruiz, duly seconded, and passed by a roll call vote of 10 to 0. Commissioner Byron will create a survey for the committee to vote on possible hybrid locations for the meetings to be held.

**14. Consideration / Approval of Members**

- a. Appointment of Alan D. Young as recommended by the American Legion Department of Arizona 2<sup>nd</sup> District.
- b. Appointment of John T. Curtis as recommended by Fort Lowell-Apache Chapter, Tucson, AZ US Army Warrant Officers Association

It was moved by Commissioner Byron, duly seconded, and passed by a roll call vote of 10 to 0 approving both appointments.

**15. Report on Current Events: For the Good of the Order**

Chair Kary, Commissioners Ruiz, Byron, Fuller, Hayes, Wohlhueter, and Obregon provided reports on current events.

**16. Future Agenda Items**

Commissioner Byron mentioned taking the Arizona Department of Services off the Committee reports. Deputy City Clerk Amari mentioned that we would have to ask management and look into this since it is a part of the VAC Bylaws.

Discussion was held, and no formal action was taken.

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**17. Benediction**

Commissioner Hayes provided the Benediction.

**18. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.**

Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 12, 2025