

**Veterans Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
Monday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**Present:** Fred Baer, Alfred Banfield, Kai Martin, Linda Meyer, Hank Scherf, George Smith; Brandon Jones, Jacob Pletcher, Mike Rau, Leah Grant; Cody Stephenson

**Absent:** Donna Vaillancourt

**Staff:** Marci Dragun (Senior Legislative Aide), Selina Toy Lee (HSA), Ed Kiryczun (CVSO/HSA), Matt Wilson (CVSO/HSA)

**Public Comments By:** No Public Comments

Topic	Discussion	Actions/Next Steps																												
<b>Meeting called to order &amp; Pledge of Allegiance Recited</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Meeting called to order at 6:35</li> <li>- Pledge of Allegiance and roll call taken - 11 present</li> </ul>	No Alternates																												
<b>Approval of minutes &amp; adoption of agenda</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Minutes from March 2021 commission meeting were adopted</li> <li>- Agenda for tonight’s commission meeting was adopted</li> <li>- Minutes approved 11 Y / 0 N</li> <li>- Agenda approved 11 Y / 0 N</li> </ul>	No Additional actions or steps																												
<b>Public Comments</b>	No Public Comments	No Additional actions or steps																												
<b>Veterans Commission Business</b>	<p><b>Ed Kiryczun, CVSO Operations Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o January 1<sup>st</sup> to May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 v 2021</li> </ul> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Measure</th> <th style="text-align: center;">May 2020</th> <th style="text-align: center;">2020 total</th> <th style="text-align: center;">May 2021</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Veteran Interactions</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1,964</td> <td style="text-align: center;">9,571*</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3,126</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Retro Received</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1,246,030.40</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2,670,644.48</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1,057,145.96</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Monthly Assistance</td> <td style="text-align: center;">113,071.40</td> <td style="text-align: center;">282,357.58</td> <td style="text-align: center;">106,662.83</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Claims Submitted</td> <td style="text-align: center;">201</td> <td style="text-align: center;">593</td> <td style="text-align: center;">122</td> </tr> <tr> <td>College Fee Waivers Granted</td> <td style="text-align: center;">20</td> <td style="text-align: center;">146</td> <td style="text-align: center;">13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>College Fees Waived</td> <td style="text-align: center;">79,944</td> <td style="text-align: center;">810,144</td> <td style="text-align: center;">68,862</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>*Each interaction is now being captured including interaction details</p>	Measure	May 2020	2020 total	May 2021	Veteran Interactions	1,964	9,571*	3,126	Total Retro Received	1,246,030.40	2,670,644.48	1,057,145.96	Total Monthly Assistance	113,071.40	282,357.58	106,662.83	Claims Submitted	201	593	122	College Fee Waivers Granted	20	146	13	College Fees Waived	79,944	810,144	68,862	No additional actions or steps
Measure	May 2020	2020 total	May 2021																											
Veteran Interactions	1,964	9,571*	3,126																											
Total Retro Received	1,246,030.40	2,670,644.48	1,057,145.96																											
Total Monthly Assistance	113,071.40	282,357.58	106,662.83																											
Claims Submitted	201	593	122																											
College Fee Waivers Granted	20	146	13																											
College Fees Waived	79,944	810,144	68,862																											

**Veterans Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
Monday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Topic	Discussion	Actions/Next Steps
<b>Veterans Commission Business (Continued)</b>	<b>Ed Kiryczun, CVSO Operations Update (Continued)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Operational Updates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Office remains closed to walk-ins (appointment only)</li> <li>❖ Tentative discussion for opening 6/15/2021</li> <li>❖ Outreach Coordinator Position recruitment open – closes May 21</li> <li>❖ Office has been facilitating on-site VA appointments</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	No additional actions or steps
<b>Veterans Commission Business (Continued)</b>	<b>Ed Kiryczun, CVSO Operations Update (Continued)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>CVSO Outreach Update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Homeless Veterans Rehabilitation Program (HVRP) May 17<sup>th</sup></li> <li>❖ Veterans Website Update – Key project for 2021</li> <li>❖ Other projects include CVSO informational videos</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	No additional actions or steps
<b>Veterans Commission Business (Continued)</b>	<b>Ed Kiryczun, CVSO Operations Update (Continued)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Veteran of The Year Nominations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Nominations are live</li> <li>❖ On-Line Link</li> <li>❖ PDF Form</li> <li>❖ Will be on Website by end of week</li> <li>❖ Press Release and E-mail blast</li> <li>❖ QR code to direct application for VOTY</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	No additional actions or steps
<b>Veterans Commission Business (Continued)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Ed Kiryczun, CVSO Operations Update (Continued)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Civix Needs Assessment Update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ May 31<sup>st</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> draft provided to Agency for review</li> <li>❖ June 14<sup>th</sup> - Draft presentation to Veterans Commission Subcommittee</li> <li>❖ June 30<sup>th</sup> – Final Presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Hybrid in-person and video meeting</li> <li>* Located in Harbor Blvd meeting room</li> <li>* Limited in-person seating will be available</li> <li>* Will be in evening time TBD</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	No additional actions or steps

**Veterans Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
Monday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Topic	Discussion	Action/Next Steps
<p><b>Veterans Commission Business (Continued)</b></p>	<p><b>Mike Gorham, Team Rubicon</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Mission</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Team Rubicon serves communities by mobilizing veterans to continue their service, leveraging their skills and experience to help people prepare, respond, and recover from disasters and humanitarian crises.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>How We Serve</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Team Rubicon provides the following services, free of charge, to at-risk homeowners affected by disasters               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Damage assessment and expedient home repair</li> <li>* Removal of floodwater and mud</li> <li>* Debris management</li> <li>* Tree removal</li> <li>* Long-term home rebuilds</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Who We Serve</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Team Rubicon chooses to go where other don't. To ensure our services are reaching the most vulnerable and at-risk communities, Team Rubicon utilizes the CDC's <b>Social Vulnerability Index</b>. The SVI uses census data to measure a community's resiliency when confronted with an outside stressor.</li> <li>❖ <b>Housing &amp; Transportation</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Multi-Unit Structures</li> <li>2. Mobile Homes</li> <li>3. Crowding</li> <li>4. No Vehicle</li> <li>5. Group Quarters</li> </ol> </li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Rebuilding Houses for Vulnerable Homeowners</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Post Disaster Survivor               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Needs as A Homeowner (Team Rubicon)                   <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Home Repair &amp; Rebuild</li> <li>2. Water &amp; Mud Removal</li> <li>3. Debris Management</li> <li>4. Damage Assessment</li> </ol> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>No additional actions or steps</p>

**Veterans Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
Monday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

<b>Veterans Commission Business (Continued)</b>	<b>Mike Gorham, Team Rubicon (Continued)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>Rebuilding Houses for Vulnerable Homeowners (Continued)</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Post Disaster Survivor<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* Needs as an Individual (American Red Cross)<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Shelter</li><li>2. Clothing</li><li>3. Food &amp; water</li><li>4. Financial Assistance</li></ol></li></ul></li></ul></li><li>○ <b>Why Veterans</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Veterans return home with hard and soft skills that translate well to disaster response. Veterans are uniquely positioned to run into chaos, process information swiftly, and take decisive action in austere environments. Team Rubicon has a growing roster of 134,000 volunteers, 71% of which are veterans who empower our free community services.</li></ul></li><li>○ <b>Team Rubicon Trajectory</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Over the last 10 years Team Rubicon has grown from 8 members to 134,000. Team Rubicon is approaching the \$50m/year revenue mark.</li></ul></li><li>○ <b>Team Rubicon Transparency</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Team Rubicon earns the trust of their donors and supporters by maximizing their impact and maintaining fiscal and operational transparency.</li></ul></li><li>○ <b>Partnership Goals</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Raise Money to Fuel Missions</li><li>❖ Leverage Partners to Create Brand awareness</li><li>❖ Recruit Volunteers</li></ul></li></ul>	No additional actions or steps
---	---	--------------------------------

**Veterans Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
Monday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Topic	Discussion	Action/Next Steps
<b>Veterans Commission Business (Continued)</b>	<b>Hank Scherf, Veteran Recognition Event</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Veterans Recognition Event will be held at the Pullman Hotel in Redwood City on November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021</li> <li>○ Speaker for Veteran Recognition Event will be Lieutenant General Mike Rocco</li> <li>○ Nominations forms are out online</li> <li>○ First time for the Veteran Recognition Event there is going to be a Press Release on Tuesday May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021</li> <li>○ 23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment Marine Corps Honor Guard will be at event</li> </ul>	No additional actions or steps
<b>Veterans Commission Business (Continued)</b>	<b>Donna Vaillancourt, Budget work Group Update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Not present to report any update</li> </ul>	No additional actions or steps
<b>Veterans Commission Business (Continued)</b>	<b>Hank Scherf, Brandon Jones, George Smith, County's Veteran and First Responder Memorial</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ In Design faze</li> <li>○ Possible laser etched Military seals made of glass</li> <li>○ Will Cover all Police, Firefighters, First Responders, and Military</li> </ul>	No additional actions or steps
<b>Veterans Commission Business (Continued)</b>	<b>George Smith, County Website Design for veteran's page</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Want to mirror Santa Cruz County's Website</li> <li>○ Will reach out to web developer who made the Santa Cruz County Veterans page to work with San Mateo County Veterans Web Page</li> <li>○ Want Website to be a one stop shop for everything veteran</li> <li>○ Want to make sure web design is mobile friendly as well</li> </ul>	No additional actions or steps
<b>Announcements from Commissioners</b>	Kai Martin's term will be ending in June and Kai will be leaving commission	No additional actions or steps
<b>Adjournment</b>	Meeting adjourned at 7:59 Adjourn approved 11 Y / 0 N	No additional actions or steps