



VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, May 12, 2026 – 6:00 pm
Room 416, San Francisco City Hall

WILLIAM BARNICKEL, PRESIDENT
HANLEY CHAN, VICE-PRESIDENT
JOSEPH BABA, JAMES BOATMAN, DEBORAH DACUMOS,
PRINCE KELLY JORDAN, ADITYA LAKSHMINARAYAN, JENNY PEREZ,
JOHN REISSENWEBER, NICHOLAS RUSANOFF

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RAMAYTUSH OHLONE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The San Francisco Veterans Affairs Commission acknowledges that we are on the unceded ancestral homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone who are the original inhabitants of the San Francisco Peninsula. As the indigenous stewards of this land and in accordance with their traditions, the Ramaytush Ohlone have never ceded, lost, nor forgotten their responsibilities as the caretakers of this place, as well as for all peoples who reside in their traditional territory. As guests, we recognize that we benefit from living and working on their traditional homeland. We wish to pay our respects by acknowledging the Ancestors, Elders, and Relatives of the Ramaytush Ohlone community and by affirming their sovereign rights as First Peoples.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL / CONFIRM QUORUM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SET AGENDA [Action]



COMMUNICATION

SFCVSO Report – CVSO Acting Director

[Report presentation / Q&A with Commissioners – 15 minutes]

Executive Team Updates

Secretary

Vice-President

President

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

April 14, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes Draft

[ACTION / VOTE]

NEW BUSINESS

- In recognition of May as Mental Health Awareness Month a letter was drafted to the BoS and Mayor advising of the “Mindful Movement for Veterans” Program. (An overview of the program was presented at last month’s commission meeting.) This free movement-based wellness program was designed for veterans with a focus on mind-body connection and mental health. Commission will consider approval of draft letter that encourages supervisors and the Mayor to include program information in their communications and district newsletters. [ACTION]
- Draft letter to Mayor’s Budget Office regarding hiring freeze that is affecting final placement of SFCVSO position. Commission will consider approval of draft letter. [ACTION]

OLD BUSINESS

- Follow-up to last month’s discussion about the elimination of two Veterans Justice Court (VJC) positions due to citywide budget cuts. A revised draft letter submitted by Commissioner Rusanoff, along with written public comment, was included in the materials sent to all commissioners and posted to the VAC website. The Commission will consider approving the letter to the Mayor. As this follows extensive discussion at last month’s meeting, commissioners’ discussion will be limited to 10 minutes. [ACTION]



GOOD WELFARE

This is the opportunity for members of the Veterans Affairs Commission to share special thanks and congratulatory remarks for the good welfare taking place in the veteran community.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

An opportunity for commission members to share information about San Francisco veteran events or briefly comment on San Francisco veterans related news.

PUBLIC COMMENT

An opportunity for members of the public to directly address the Commission on items of interest to the public that are within the subject of San Francisco veterans affairs. Members of the public should address the commission as a whole and not direct comments to a specific commissioner. Speakers are allowed up to two minutes for comments. Each member of the public will be allotted the same number of minutes to speak. The President or the Commission may limit the total testimony to 30 minutes for general public comment and public comment specific to an actionable agenda item.

HONORS REPORT AND MOMENT OF SILENCE

In memory of American service members in all wars and conflicts who made the ultimate sacrifice. We also remember the passing of homeless veterans, veterans who died while awaiting approval of benefits, and suicides within the veteran and armed service communities.

ADJOURNMENT

This document is Official Business of the Veterans Affairs Commission, City and County of San Francisco. It is part of the official Public Record of the City and County of San Francisco.

Public Access:

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Veterans Affairs Commission Meetings:

General meetings of the SFVAC are scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of every month, except for July, when there is no scheduled SF VAC meeting, and are held in Room 416 in City Hall.



Meeting confirmation, and specific announcement of general meetings are made via public posting of the Meeting Agenda as required by law, at least 72 hours prior to scheduled meetings. Agendas for SFVAC meetings (and archived meeting minutes) are available on the SFVAC Pages of the City of San Francisco website.

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**Veterans
Crisis Line**



1-800-273-8255
PRESS 1

If you or a Veteran, you know is in immediate danger to themselves or others, please call 911 or visit your local emergency room.

The Veterans Crisis Line is also available by texting 838255 or by going to their website and chatting with a mental health professional.



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