

# Veterans Empowerment Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 20, 2023, 2023 at 1p.m.

Meeting Recording:

[https://teams.microsoft.com/\\_#/calling/19:meeting\\_NjFINjc0ZDEtODNiOC00NWQwLWI0MGYtZDM0YzNhZWVhMDJi@thread.v2/](https://teams.microsoft.com/_#/calling/19:meeting_NjFINjc0ZDEtODNiOC00NWQwLWI0MGYtZDM0YzNhZWVhMDJi@thread.v2/)

## Call to Order/Welcome

- The meeting was called to order by Chairman Hanley at 1:02pm

## Roll Call

- **Members Present:** Shawn Hanley, Mike Mizell, Dr. Samantha Brown-Parks, Rev McGhee, Rick White, Patricia Lewis, Brad Mitchell, Anthony Merritt (Quorum met)
- **Members Absent:** Michael Moore, Stephen Leake,
- **Staff Present:** Stanley Wilson (Community Development) , Ann Isaac

Invocation by Mike Mizell

Pledge led by Rick White

## Approval of July 20, 2023 Meeting Agenda

- Rick White made a motion to approve. Sam Brown-Parks 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## Ratification of May 18, 2023 Meeting Minutes

- Rick White made a motion to approve. Mike Mizell 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## Old Business

- The VEC would like a meeting with the Veteran Service Agencies that have been awarded the VSP grants either as a large group lunch or as smaller meetings with topic specific small groups of awardees/ applicants.
- Sgt Fox Grant Application update from State Veterans Service was submitted jointly with Behavioral Health. The VEC would help develop the scope of the work if the \$750,000 grant is awarded for suicide prevention

## New Business

- Sam Brown-Parks made a motion to move the 8/17 meeting to 8/24 and have 4 groups focused on health and wellness present to the VEC. 2nd by Mike Mizell

#### Announcements

- Shawn Hanley: SSGT Fox suicide prevention program will be on 10/5/23 at the State Capitol
- Rick White: If you know a Georgia JROTC student who is going to participate in a college ROTC program, the Veterans Hall of Fame has \$4,000 scholarships available. There will be a ceremony on 8/2/23 in Johns Creek
- Mike Mizell: on Friday, 11/10/23 there will be a Veterans awareness walk in Johns Creek with Senator Ossoff. There will also be a celebration of the Marines birthday.
- Anthony Merritt: The Sons of Atlanta Vietnam Memorial is only waiting for approval by the Mayor for its \$1.5 Million budget before scheduling its groundbreaking in Piedmont Park. They are planning for a Veteran's Day groundbreaking ceremony.

Motion to adjourn Dr. Brown-Parks Second Mike Mizell  
Meeting Adjourned 1:47