

Veterans Empowerment Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 21, 2024, 1pm

Meeting Recording:

https://teams.microsoft.com/_#/calling/19:meeting_NjFINjc0ZDEtODNiOC00NWQwLWI0MGYtZDM0YzNhZWZhMDJi@thread.v2/

Call to Order/Welcome

- The meeting was called to order by Chairman Brown-Parks at 1:05pm

Roll Call

- **Members Present:** Dr. Samantha Brown-Parks, Rick White, Patricia Lewis, , Rev McGhee, Anthony Merritt, Michael Moore, John Walsh
- **Members Absent:** Stephen Leake, Shawn Hanley,
- **Staff Present:** Stanley Wilson and Ann Isaac (Community Development)

Invocation by Rev McGhee

Pledge led by Trish Lewis

Approval of Meeting Agenda

- Motion to approve by Rev McGhee, seconded by Anthony Merritt. Unanimous approval. Motion carries.

Ratification of January 18, 2024 and December 21, 2023 Meeting Minutes

- Motion to approve by Rev McGhee, seconded by Anthony Merritt. Unanimous approval. Motion carries.

Old Business

- Mike Mizell's vacant District 1 seat has been appointed to John Walsh, active-duty Army service 1965-1988.
- We still have 2 openings in Commissioner Natalie Ward's district as well as one at large.
- As Dr. Brown-Parks has been elected to the position of Chairman, we will need the secretary position filled as she is covering both roles.
- Board of Commissioners confirmed funding for the VEC in the budget.
 - RFP was released.
 - VSP is under way.
- Workplan update (Mr. Wilson)
 - External Affairs will begin producing an annual report.
 - Website is under way.
 - RFP process is in progress. Three reviewers were selected from the VEC to serve on the VSP.

New Business

- We will invite the Grant Writer to come back to the next meeting to assist us with procuring outside funding.
- Rev McGhee expressed concerns over meeting via zoom. Michael Moore offered a location in College Park for an in-person meeting.

Announcements

- City of Atlanta has an RFP out for the Sons of Vietnam War Memorial in Piedmont Park. 9 cities in Fulton are represented on the board. Rev McGhee encourages the VEC members to be involved.
- Rick White announced a Veterans ceremony on 3/29/24 at the Johns Creek Veterans Memorial.

Meeting Adjourned 1:42