



# City of Doral Military Affairs Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

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Tuesday, April 4, 2023  
6:00 p.m.  
Doral Government Center  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor Multipurpose Room  
8401 NW 53<sup>rd</sup> Terrace  
Doral, FL 33166

## 1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

## 2. Roll Call of Board Members

William 'Bill' Watts, Chair	Present
Angela Tejeda, Vice Chair	Present
Christopher Flynn, Secretary	Present
Ricardo 'Rich' Bautista, Board Member	Present
Alvaro Ferrando, Board Member	Present
Isabel Martin, Alternate Member	Present

### Staff present:

Edgard Estrada, Director, Code Compliance

### Public present:

Mark Pinilla, President of Vet Info

## 3. Pledge of Allegiance

## 4. Public Comments

No public comments.

## 5. Discussion Items

a. Board Member Introductions

b. Selection of Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary

**Nomination of Member Bill Watts for Chair** made by Member Flynn and seconded

by Member Tejeda. By consensus, motion passes unanimously.

**Nomination of Member Angela Tejeda for Vice Chair** made by Member Bautista and seconded by Chair Watts. By consensus, motion passes unanimously.

**Nomination of Member Chris Flynn for Secretary** made by Chair Watts and seconded by Member Bautista. By consensus, motion passes unanimously.

**c. Schedule of Board Meetings for 2023**

Chair Watts noted previous Board meetings held first Tuesday of the month. All members reviewed calendars for conflicts on the first Tuesday of August and November, unanimously agreed to hold regularly scheduled meetings on the listed dates.

- August 2, 6:00 p.m.
- November 2, 6:00 p.m.

**6. Roberts Rules of Order**

**7. Recap from Department Liaison**

Board Coordinator Edgard Estrada discussed a list of items of interest from the last disbanded Military Affairs Advisory Board that should be continued with this newly appointed Board.

- a. Veteran Family Day Event, to be held the weekend of Veterans Day 2023
- b. Memorial Park additions, Board member interest to add variety of military equipment and small honorary memorials to Doral Veterans Park
- c. VFW Doral Chapter, Board member interest to recruit members and add VFW Chapter within the City of Doral
- d. Adopt a Unit, Board member interest for City of Doral to official "adopt" U.S. Southern Command to tie traditional bonds that municipalities have with military installations integrated within their communities.
- e. Military Tribute Banners, continue annual sponsorship of creating and hanging banners of Doral's resident veterans along the city street that fronts the U.S. Southern Command

**8. Open Discussion**

- **Veteran Get Togethers**  
Public attendee Mark Pinilla and Board members discuss potential veteran get togethers, either around Board Meetings in the Board meeting rooms, or as separated events, possibly at local restaurants or similar venues. These are intended as meet and greet, special interest groups.
- **Veteran Events**  
Intent to plan multiple events through the year for Doral veterans, such as fishing, kayaking, as topic interest strikes. Future Board discussions should consider fund-raising events, sponsor donations, that will help pay overhead costs.
- **Military Affairs Advisory Board fund**  
Chair Watts noted an official request to City Commission should be made about the Board having a fund to be able to hold regular veteran events, a \$25,000 annual budget would be enough to hold multiple of events, including the Veteran Family Day.
- **Health Fair for City of Doral Veterans**  
Vice Chair Tejeda noted many municipalities hold an annual health fair for residents or special interest groups. The idea is to hold a health fair for veterans and bring in

various Department of Veterans Affairs agencies, local support agencies, for a one day event held annually.

#### **9. Discussion of Next Meeting Agenda Items**

Discussion items under review for the next regular meeting, to be held August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

- Review of Memorial Day event, what was done, who showed up, parking, how to make it better for 2024.
- Military Family Day Event, preliminary planning for November 11 tentative event, held in conjunction with Veterans Day.
- Health Fair for Veterans, new Board idea for City to hold Health Fair, picking day and location, ability to get sponsors, planning preliminaries.

#### **10. Next Meeting: Special Meeting, May 16, 6:00 p.m.**

**Motion to hold special meeting on May 16** made by Member Bautista and seconded by Secretary Flynn. The agenda item for this meeting will be discussion of Memorial Day Event on May 29<sup>th</sup>.

Secretary Flynn will draft memo for Commission Agenda to request wreath for Memorial Day, note that the Board will extend an invite to the U.S. Southern Command and staff for the event, and will need police or public service aide available to either direct traffic or route parking for the limited space at Veterans Park.

The event is expected to be short, simple, held at 10:00 a.m., Board and invited members to say a few words in memorial, then lay the memorial wreath.

The invite of Southern Command may potentially request color guard for the wreath laying.

Intent to invite various city officials as available, to include the Mayor and Council Members, Parks Director, and Code Enforcement Director sitting as the Board Advisor.

#### **11. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourns at 6:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Flynn, Secretary

Motion to approve the minutes of the April 4, 2023, Military Affairs Advisory Board Meeting made by Board Member Alvaro Ferrando and seconded by Board Member Isabel Martin.

William 'Bill' Watts, Chair  
Christopher Flynn, Secretary  
Ricardo 'Rich' Bautista, Member  
Alvaro Ferrando, Member

Isabel Cristina Martin

APPROVED and ADOPTED this 1<sup>st</sup> day of August 2023.

William 'Bill' Watts, Chair