Serving the Pueblo Community Since 1910 302 N. Santa Fe Ave. • Pueblo, CO 81003 • (719) 542-1704 • (719) 546-9596 fax

• **pueblochamber.org MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE** January 13, 2023 ~ 8:30 am Mtg MINUTES Welcome & “Pledge of Allegiance” Thank you’s’’ Jeff Chostner & his staff for use of their conference room and Sunflower Bank for picking up the donuts & coffee/this rm

**Guest Speaker:** **Rocky Mountain Leadership Foundation.** for high school seniors/focus on leadership free to students/looking for peer to peer in our community/ youth leadership conference in June at Colorado State University Pueblo.

**• US Congresswoman Lauren Boebert’s Office** **Cathy Garcia** House in process of submitting a new legislation and this will be submitted at first Legislative breakfast Saturday February 4, 2022.

• **Absent** State Senators and Representatives

• **Pueblo Chemical Depot** ~ **Clyde** still hiring they will not be fully closed for another 2 to 3 years

• Absent United Veteran’s Coalition of Colorado ~ Brian McCain

• **AFA** **Aaron:**  looking for a teacher of the year if we know of a teacher send information cypher patriot Steller explorer/2 weeks Jan 27th/ please email with any event honoring vets

• **Absent** American Legion Post #2 ~ John E. Martinez Jr/Rich Maudlin

• **Absent** American Red Cross-SE CO Branch ~ Jim Griffith

• **Aveanna Healthcare** ~ **Emily Holbrook’s** patient department taking referrals /sponsors parent program they sponsor to help parent to get certified CNA/Emily is ambassador of the year

**• Clasplife** ~ **Tommy Ferguson** help wheel chair bound not only veterans.

• **Absent National Guard** nothing

• **CONG** **Sam** Nothing to add

• **CSU- P Vets Laura** classes start on Tuesday Sat Jan 10 enrollment extravaganza

 • **VSO ~ Eric V. Moncibais** grants Colorado if you applied or want to deadline march 1 online webinars Colorado DMVA for tutorials on grant writing Lisa Stam is a contact/property tax exemption need docs in by July 1 open to gold star spouses

• Absent Santa Eddie

• **Division of Veteran Affairs** **Cory Wilson** They will out in the community approaching veterans to help veterans who need assistance. They serve Pueblo Southern Colorado and Colorado Springs. They will be set up at CSU Pueblo and PCC to help veterans find employment.

• **Absent** Habitat for Humanity ~ Christina Maestas

• **Absent** HARP ~ Michelle Francis

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• **pueblochamber.org Marine Corps League** **Bob Flores** they have a new commandant but no other information provided.

• **Mt Carmel Veteran Service Center** ~ Sal Katz Jr. expansion we have been here one year we are expanding working with legal services for pro bono/summit Hispanic nurses for acupuncture health solutions for mental health Medicaid mentors VSO in office expanding to a new larger office coming soon Jan 19th salute to heroes 306 RSVPs PCC Fortino Room only seats are sponsor tables guest speakers

• **Pikes Peak National Cemetery** ~ Luis Valerio Ph.D. Pikes peak national cemetery 3500 interments most are cremations not much work on landscaping averaging about 3 and 5 a day and about 15 to 20 a week/local ritual team they are very active coming to pueblo as families are more aware

• **Pueblo Community College ~** Jesus Rios classes start week of 1.15

• **Absent** Pueblo Veteran Transportation ~ Danny Rodríguez

• **Absent** Pueblo Voter Registration Project ~ George Autobee

• **Absent** Pueblo Wireless Doc ~ Darius Goshay

• **Absent** Roselawn Cemetery ~ Lucille Corsentino

• **pueblochamber.org USAF** ~ Ted Gembczynski and Peterson air force base starting this year they are only meeting every 2nd month due to lack of interest. By the 15th of Feb who can attend the military appreciation for retirees that will be going on about august or Sept of this year. They will like to get at least 50 percent participation if they don’t reach that they may need to cx event moving forward. 2nd Wed of every 2nd month anyone can attend next meeting in February.

• **Veterans Overcoming Obstacles** ~ Chris Carter tomorrow Jan 14th 8 years 8 months sober he is now a license addiction candidate hep veteran who battle ptsd and focuses on suicide prevention. They are in need of sponsors for their Feb 25th bench press and dead lift competition. Event will have a veteran category. Cost is $22 for one event and $44 for two events. They have a navy veteran at the gym daily who is also law enforcement who they are sponsoring to help him reach a national event. Memorial Day event is now called the Butch Chavez 5k and they will honor a different vet each year.

• **Absent** VFW ~ Fred & Shelly Gauna

• **Absent** Volunteers of America ~ Kendra Case

• **Absent** Wells Fargo ~ Francis Marinich Dowd

• **Pueblo Weisbrod Aircraft** Museum trying to build a Vietnam exhibit looking for a list of items from the Vietnam to add to exhibit.

**Marine Corp** **Bob Flores** they have a new commandant but no other information provided.

* **Medicare mentors Kelly Brude** represented by Sal Katz Jr from Mt Carmel Veterans service center Pueblo. Looking to have Medicare Mentors 3 times a week at the Mt. Carmel office in Pueblo.
* **Native Thunder Voices Tom** elk lodge is interested in sponsoring tables at salute to heroes/ grant programs to sponsor catholic charities and library

**Dominique Friendly Harbor** February 1st is home front for family members who can help take care of themselves with mental health for veterans AVA will make copy of flyer and send to us.

**Pueblo plex** No information

**San de Cristo community care** new music therapist most important they do offer a lot of grief and bereavement support for veteran’s families Bill who is not present asking if they are doing anything with the Vietnam memorial as they helped with the one in Pueblo West last year but would like to help again. They like to help promote event and services and let Brian know

**TREA** congrats the elks club for wreaths across the harp bridge

* **veterans’ treatment court** **Jesus Rios** veterans upward bound looking for a site coordinator for Pikes Peak College
* **Visiting Angels** offer a no co cost for veteran care for any one 21 years or older they will need referral from VA doctor.
* **Allison Perry** she is re-locating from Oregon (Ava has her flyer) Farm sanctuary they focus on veterans with combat trauma/focus on getting veterans out in the community/they have a future program to help end of life for veterans/she requested how she can promote her video.