

Nydia Romero, Chair
Naomi Lopez, Vice Chair
Victor Montiel, Commissioner
Deann Pinuelas, Commissioner
George Retamoza, Commissioner



Jayson Perez, Commission Secretary

**CITY OF SOUTH EL MONTE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE SOUTH EL MONTE PATRIOTIC COMMISSION**

AGENDA

April 22, 2026, 6:00 PM
1415 Santa Anita Avenue, South El Monte, CA 91733

GENERAL COMMENT

Those wishing to participate during Public Comment may do so in person at the South El Monte City Hall Council Chambers, or may submit written public comments by emailing jperez@soelmonte.org. Emailed public comments are due by 5:00 p.m., and should be limited to no more than 250 words. Written public comments will be provided to the Patriotic Commission and will be part of the record but will not be read aloud.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, if you require a disability-related modification or accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please call the City Clerk's office at (626) 579-6540 at least 72 hours prior to the meeting.

MEETINGS

The Patriotic Commission holds regular meetings on the fourth Wednesday of every month. Regular meetings start at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 1415 Santa Anita Avenue, South El Monte, California. Special and Adjourned Regular meetings start time are to be determined.

POSTING LOCATIONS OF AGENDA AND/OR CANCELLATION NOTICES

Regular meeting agendas will be posted at least 72 hours before the meeting (GC 54954(a)(1)).

Agenda and Cancellation Notices can be viewed online and are also posted at the following three (3) locations: City Hall located at 1415 Santa Anita Avenue, Senior Center located at 1556 Central Avenue and the Community Center located at 1530 Central Avenue, South El Monte, California.

VIEWING OF AGENDA PACKETS

Full agenda packet can be viewed either at <https://www.cityofsouthelmonte.org/129/Meeting-Agendas-Minutes> or in the Community Center during normal business hours Monday through Thursday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Closed on Fridays and major holidays.

ISSUES RELATED TO AGENDA

For issues related to the agenda, including a disability-related accommodation necessary to participate in this meeting, please contact:

Jayson Perez, Community Services Manager/Commission Secretary
Ph (626) 652-3109

AGENDA BEGINS ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

1. ROLL CALL

Commissioners: Montiel, Pinuelas, Retamoza, Vice Chair Lopez, and Chair Romero

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Romero

3. PRESENTATIONS

3.a. Commissioner Introductions and Roles

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

By motion of the Patriotic Commission, this is the time to notify the public of any changes to the agenda, remove items from the consent calendar for individual consideration and/or rearrange the order of the agenda.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Speakers may provide public comments on any matter within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Patriotic Commission, including items on the agenda. Each speaker will be limited to five minutes. Unless a majority of the Commission objects, the Chair may provide speakers more or less time to speak. All comments or queries shall be addressed to the Commission as a body and not to any specific member thereof. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(2), the Ralph M. Brown Act, no action or discussion by the Patriotic Commission shall be undertaken on any item not appearing on the posted agenda, except to briefly provide information, ask for clarification, provide direction to staff, or schedule a matter for a future meeting.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

Items on the consent calendar are considered to be routine and customary and are enacted by a single motion with the exception of items previously pulled by a member of the Patriotic Commission during "Approval of the Agenda" for individual consideration. Any items pulled shall be individually considered immediately after taking action on the Consent Calendar.

6.a. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR PATRIOTIC COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 25, 2026

Staff is requesting approval of Minutes for the March 25, 2026, Regular Patriotic Commission meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Staff is requesting approval of Minutes for the March 25, 2026, Regular Patriotic Commission meeting.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

7.a. CONTINUED FROM THE MARCH 25, 2026, REGULAR PATRIOTIC COMMISSION MEETING — FLAGS OF VALOR & MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY EVENTS

The Patriotic Commission will continue to discuss and provide input on the 2026 Flags of Valor and Memorial Day Ceremony events.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Staff recommends the Commission continue to discuss and provide feedback to enhance the events.

8. COMMISSIONERS REPORTS, INCLUDING AB 1234 REPORTS

AB 1234, section 53232.3(d) requires Members of a legislative body to provide brief reports on meetings attended at the expense of the local agency (i.e., Conferences, seminars, training etc.) at the next regular meeting of the legislative body.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

10. COMMISSIONERS AGENDA

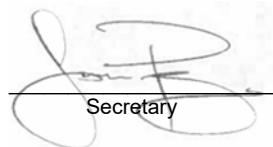
11. ADJOURNMENT

NEXT REGULAR PATRIOTIC COMMISSION MEETING:

Wednesday, May 27, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

CERTIFICATION

I, Jayson Perez, Secretary of the City of South El Monte Patriotic Commission, or my designee, hereby certify under penalty of perjury that a true, accurate copy of the foregoing agenda was posted on this April 16, 2026, seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting per Government Code 54954.2 at the following locations: City of South El Monte City Hall, Senior Center and Community Center and made available at www.cityofsouthelmonte.org.


Secretary



Commission Agenda Report

Agenda Item No. 6.a.

DATE: April 22, 2026

TO: Honorable Chair and Members of the Patriotic Commission

FROM: Jayson Perez , Community Services Manager

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR PATRIOTIC COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 25, 2026

SUMMARY: Staff is requesting approval of Minutes for the March 25, 2026, Regular Patriotic Commission meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Staff is requesting approval of Minutes for the March 25, 2026, Regular Patriotic Commission meeting.

FISCAL/FINANCIAL IMPACT:

DISCUSSION:

ATTACHMENT(S):

A. DRAFT March 25, 2026, Minutes

CITY OF SOUTH EL MONTE
REGULAR PATRIOTIC COMMISSION MEETING – MINUTES
Wednesday, March 25, 2026
1415 Santa Anita Avenue, South El Monte, CA 91733

Mr. Perez called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Commissioner(s): Lopez, Montiel, Pinuelas, and Romero

STAFF PRESENT: Jayson Perez, Community Services Manager, Elizabette Miranda, Administrative Assistant, and Noelia Saucedo, Senior Recreation Leader

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Commissioner Lopez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. PRESENTATION

3a. The Patriotic Commission Board and Staff introduced themselves.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Romero, seconded by Commissioner Montiel to approve the agenda. Motion passed 4-0, by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner(s): Lopez, Montiel, Pinuelas and Romero

NAYS: Commissioner(s): None

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Perez opened Public Comment.

There being no public comments, Mr. Perez closed Public Comment.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion by Commissioner Romero, seconded by Commissioner Lopez to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion passed 4-0, by the following vote:

AYES: Commissioner(s): Lopez, Montiel, Pinuelas and Romero

NAYS: Commissioner(s): None

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

7a. SELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Commissioner Lopez **nominated** Commissioner Romero for Chair. Vote passed 4-0:

AYES: Commissioner(s): Lopez, Montiel, Pinuelas and Romero

NAYS: Commissioner(s): None

Commissioner Pinuelas **nominated** Commissioner Lopez for Vice Chair.
Vote passed 4-0:

AYES: Commissioner(s): Lopez, Montiel, Pinuelas and Chair
Romero

NAYS: Commissioner(s): None

Mr. Perez turned the meeting over to Chair Romero.

7b. FLAGS OF VALOR & MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY EVENT

Chair Romero announced the items and Jayson Perez, Community Services Manager, provided a report.

Staff suggested continuing the item at the next Patriotic Commission meeting.

8. COMMISSIONERS REPORTS, INCLUDING AB 1234 REPORTS

Chair Romero announced she attended the following: March Recreation Classes, Mat Pilates Classes, HIIT Workout Classes, and Coffee with a Deputy.

Commissioner Montiel announced he attended the Little League Opening Day.

Vice Chair Lopez announced she attended the following: March 3, 2026, City Council Meeting, March 17, 2026, City Council Meeting, St. Patrick's Day Luncheon, and Red Hats Paint & Sip Social.

Commissioner Pinuelas announced she has nothing to report.

9. CORRESPONDENCE – None

10. COMMISSIONERS AGENDA – None

11. ADJOURNMENT

At 6:23 p.m., there being no more business before the Commission, Chair Romero adjourned the meeting to a Regular Patriotic Commission Meeting on Wednesday, April 22, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Jayson Perez, Community Services Manager

Nydia Romero, Chair



Commission Agenda Report Agenda Item No. 7.a.

DATE: April 22, 2026

TO: Honorable Chair and Members of the Patriotic Commission

FROM: Jayson Perez , Community Services Manager

SUBJECT: CONTINUED FROM THE MARCH 25, 2026, REGULAR PATRIOTIC COMMISSION MEETING — FLAGS OF VALOR & MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY EVENTS

SUMMARY: The Patriotic Commission will continue to discuss and provide input on the 2026 Flags of Valor and Memorial Day Ceremony events.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Staff recommends the Commission continue to discuss and provide feedback to enhance the events.

FISCAL/FINANCIAL IMPACT:

DISCUSSION:

The City will host the Flags of Valor and Memorial Day Ceremony events beginning Monday, May 18, 2026, through Monday, May 25, 2026.

The Flags of Valor is a week-long event that provides the community an opportunity to honor Active Duty, Veteran, and Fallen Military Personnel. Proceeds from the \$25 per sponsored flag will be designated to support local veterans' needs, such as hotel vouchers, assistance for unhoused veterans, mental health services, food insecurity support, and other related resources.

The Flags of Valor Opening Ceremony is scheduled for Monday, May 18, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. at the Dean L. Shively Middle School Front Lawn, where the public will have the opportunity to purchase and sponsor flags. The ceremony will feature presentations from City officials, a presentation of colors, and a performance by the Dean L. Shively Band. A complimentary meal of hot dogs, chips, and a drink will be provided to attendees while supplies last.

On Wednesday, May 20, 2026, a flag retirement event will be held at 5:30 p.m. at the Dean L. Shively Middle School Front Lawn, where community members may bring damaged or worn out American flags to be properly retired.

A closing ceremony for the Flags of Valor display will take place on Monday, May 25, 2026, at 11:00 a.m., which will be incorporated into the City's Annual Memorial Day

Ceremony, providing the community an opportunity to gather and honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice while serving in the United States Armed Forces.

Lastly, the Patriotic Commission will have opportunities to participate in specific City events to help promote and secure sponsorships for the Flags of Valor display and raise awareness of the City's Military Recognition Programs. These events provide valuable opportunities for the Commission to engage with the community and share information about the programs offered by the City. The next event that the Commission can promote would be the:

- Cinco de Mayo Night Market

The Patriotic Commission will receive and review the event program and will discuss the opportunity to assist with the Memorial Day Ceremony.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- A. DRAFT Flags of Valor Program
- B. DRAFT Memorial Day Ceremony Program



FLAGS OF VALOR OPENING CEREMONY



MONDAY, MAY 18, 2026

INTRODUCTION

Patriotic Commission Chair Nydia Romero *(Recommended)*

PRESENTATION OF COLORS *(Awaiting Confirmation)*

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Patriotic Commission Vice Chair Naomi Lopez *(Recommended)*

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Dean L. Shively Band

“OLD GLORY” POEM READING

Patriotic Commission *(Need to Fill)*

GUEST SPEAKERS

(Awaiting Confirmation)

BAND PERFORMANCE

Dean L. Shively Band

THANK YOU TO OUR PATRIOT SPONSORS

(Need to Fill)

OLD GLORY

“I am the flag of the United States of America. My name is Old Glory. I fly atop the world’s tallest buildings. I stand watch in America’s halls of justice. I stand guard majestically over great institutions of learning.

I stand guard with the greatest military power in the world. Look up and see me. I stand for peace, honor, truth and justice. I stand for freedom. I am confident; I am arrogant; I am proud. When I am flown with my fellow banners, my head is a little higher, my colors a little truer. I bow to no one. I am recognized all over the world.

I am worshipped. I am loved and I am feared. I have fought in every battle of every war for more than 200 years: Gettysburg, Shilo, Appomattox, San Juan Hill, the trenches of France, the Argonne Forest, Anzio, Rome, the beaches of Normandy, Guam, Okinawa, Japan, Korea, Vietnam, in the Persian Gulf and a score of places long forgotten, by all but those who were there with me. I was there.

I led my Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines. I followed them and watched over them. They loved me. I was on a small hill in Iwo Jima. I was dirty, battle-worn and tired, but my Marines and Sailors cheered me. And I was proud. I have been soiled, burned, torn and trampled on the streets of countries that I have helped set free. It does not hurt, for I have been soiled, burned, torn and trampled on the streets of my own country. and when it is by those I have served in battle with, it hurts. But I shall overcome, for I am strong. I have slipped the bonds of earth and from my vantagepoint on the moon, I stand watch over the uncharted new frontiers of space.

I have been silent witness to all of America’s finest hours. But my finest hour comes when I am torn in strips to be used as bandages for my wounded comrades on the field of battle - when I fly at half mast to honor my Soldiers, my Airman, my Sailors, my Marines, and - when I lie in the trembling arms of a grieving mother, at the graveside of her fallen son or daughter.

I am proud. My name is “Old Glory.” Long may I wave, dear God, long may I wave.”



MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY PROGRAM

MONDAY, MAY 25, 2026

Band PerformanceDean L. Shively School Band
 Call to Order.....Patriotic Commission Chair Nydia Romero
 Presentation of Flags.....By Greater El Monte Veterans of Foreign War Post #10218
 Pledge of AllegiancePerformed by Commander Mark Tavera
 National AnthemDean L. Shively School Band
 Invocation **(Need to Fill)**
 M.I.A Table Poem.....Read by Patriotic Commissioner **(Need to Fill)**
 Flags of ValorSouth El Monte City Council Member **(Need to Fill)**
 Memorial Day Ceremony Honoree: Lance Corporal Albert Garcia.....Presented by
 Patriotic Commissioner **(Recommended)**

WELCOME Mayor Gloria Olmos
 Introduction of GuestMayor Gloria Olmos
 RemarksCity Council /Guest
 21 Gun Salute.....Greater El Monte Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #10218
 Taps.....Ernesto Garcia from Greater El Monte Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #10218
 Presentation of Wreath.....City Council
 Veteran’s Photo.....City Council & Veterans
 Band Performance during RefreshmentsDean L. Shively School Band

South El Monte City Council
 Mayor Gloria Olmos
 Mayor Pro Tem Rudy Bojorquez
 Councilmember Manuel Acosta
 Councilmember Hector Delgado
 Councilmember Larry Rodriguez

South El Monte Patriotic Commissioners
 Chair Nydia Romero
 Vice Chair Naomi Lopez
 Commissioner Victor Montiel
 Commissioner Deann Pinuelas
 Commissioner George Retamoza



The POW MIA Table

This Table is our way of symbolizing the fact that members of the Military are missing from our midst. They are commonly called POWs or MIAs, we call them "Brothers." They are unable to be with us today and so we remember them.

The Table set for one is small – Symbolizing the frailty of one prisoner alone against his oppressors.....

Remember

The Tablecloth is white- Symbolizing the purity of their intentions to respond to their country's call to arms.....

Remember

The single Red Rose displayed in a vase reminds us of the families and loved ones of our comrades-in-arms who keep the faith awaiting their return.....

Remember

The Red Ribbon tied so prominently on the vase is reminiscent of the red ribbon worn upon the lapel and breast of thousands who bear witness to their unyielding determination to demand a proper accounting of our missing.....

Remember

The Candle, the candle is lit- symbolizing the upward reach of their unconquerable spirit.....

Remember

A Slice of Lemon is on the bread plate to remind us of the bitter fate.....

Remember

There is salt upon the bread plate- symbolic of the families' tears as they wait....

Remember

The glass is inverted- the cannot toast us this night.....

Remember

The Chair- The chair is empty. They are not here.....

Remember.....Remember

All of you who served with them and called them comrades, who depended upon their might and aid, and relied upon them, for surely, they have not forsaken you.....

Remember

Remember..... Until that day they come home....Remember