



# Veterans' and Military Affairs Advisory Board

New Mexico Veterans' Memorial  
September, 2016

## Minutes

### Those Present:

Roger Newall, Archie Garcia, Ken O'Keefe, Steve Overman,  
Brian Leen, and Chris Timm  
SECRETARY: Beth Hemmerich

### Those Excused:

Stephen Asher, Pat Gaston, Jonathan Strawn, Mike Scramski  
and Martin Ethridgehill

### Guests:

Harry Misel – New Mexico Museum of Military History  
Allen Dale Olson – Museum of the American Military Family

- I. Meeting Called to Order by Chairman Roger Newall at 9:06 am
- II. Review and Accept of Minutes from August 17, 2016
  - The motion to accept the August minutes was approved.
  - No changes or corrections
- III. Public Comments
  - Harry Misel and Allen Olson were invited to attend this meeting to see if there is any way that this Board could help either group, as word is they are both struggling.
  - Harry Misel commented that he is looking for a 10K square foot showroom. He currently has a storage building to hold the vehicles, on 6<sup>th</sup> street, but he wants a functioning museum.
    - Harry shared the history of the museum and how the museum obtained 100+ vehicles.
    - It was asked of Harry what fundraising he did and he was able to fund a museum rental space. Harry said that he has personally has paid for the past year out of his own pocket. He has no financial background and has no grant money.
    - Harry said that his current financial situation for raising money is himself and Board members putting in personal dollars. Capital outlay is hard to come by and the private sector has no current buy in.
  - Allen Olson informed the board that his museum used to be housed and sponsored by the Bataan Military Academy, which is now closed. His museum had found a new location in Tijeras at an old house next too Molly's Bar.
    - Allen commented that he needs help with getting the word out of their location and he needs visitors.
      - Hours are Friday and Saturday – 12:30-6:00pm; or by appointment
      - Rates: Free; donations
    - The Museum of the American Military Family has a lease at their current location for two years.
- IV. Unfinished Business
  - Roger informed the group there are no new updates on the coins.
  - Roger updated the group that the hiring process has no new changes. Albuquerque is still at a 10-12% rate.
  - The group was reminded that there are still open positions on the Board. There are four spaces open.
  - Roger updated the Board that the Veteran Wall's being installed at Senior Centers finished its 6<sup>th</sup> installment.
    - There are two remains Senior Centers to be installed and then this project will be complete.
      - Manzano Mesa will be installed Oct 6, 2016.
      - Palo Duro will be installed Oct 25, 2016.

- In 2017 the current walls will be able to add those who missed the initial set up. The criterion is they must be a veteran and a member of that Senior Center; being on the wall is voluntary.
- Steve Overman updated the group on the Veteran's Integration Center (VIC) and their building/property. Steve said that Eleanor has working hard to get the ball rolling on this project.
  - The VIC is unable to apply for grants until they own the land.
  - HUD needs to approve the land on which the VIC is to be built.
  - MRA/City housing is involved in this process.
  - Community Family Services will buy the land from the MRA, after the land has been appraised. Then they will sell the land to the VIC.
  - The RFP for this land will be released soon and so far no other entities have expressed interest.
  - The VIC board is working with Wells Fargo for funding.
  - Once the VIC is developed, they will own the tax, title, and license of the building and the land. They will be responsible for the maintenance, renovations, and upkeep.
- Upcoming Events
  - Hispanic Heritage month is celebrated on Base between September 9 and October 9.
  - Veteran's Day is November 11 and will have a ceremony at the NMVM.
- This meeting was Ken O'Keefe's final board meeting as his term is up. He was honored by Roger Newall by being coined and the entire Board stood and honored him, thanking him for his service.

V. New Business

- Navy Week was the week of Sept 12-16. The kick off ceremony for this week took place at the NMVM and went well.
- Veteran's Day at the Fair had a great turnout.

VI. Setting of Future Meetings – October 19 at 9:00 am at the NM Veterans' Memorial.

VII. Adjourn – 10:10 am.