

Veterans and Military Affairs Advisory Board

Mayor's Office of Veteran's Affairs

Wednesday	Membership
September 18 th , 2019	Authorized: 12
9:00 – 11:00 AM	Actual: 12
New Mexico Veterans' Memorial Park	Vacancies: 0
1100 Louisiana Blvd. SE	Pending: 4

Agenda

- 1) Call Meeting to Order
- 2) Approval of previous meeting minutes (August 21st, 2019)
- 3) Outgoing Member Appreciation
- 4) Public Comments (If Any) (5 Minute Limit)
- 5) Guest Speakers
 - a. Bernie Lambe: Direction of the UVC
 - b. Bobby Ehrig: Veteran Homelessness in ABQ
 - c. Steve Loomis: Update on Warrior Veteran Service Building
- 6) Discussion of Advisory Board Charter
 - a. Ad Hoc positions, add/remove to list and confirm
 - b. Update on whether the Chair position is to change
- 7) Reminder of next meeting
- 8) Adjourn

Next Meeting: October 16th, 2019



- iv) Provide handout (attached)

- b) **Steve Loomis:** Board, NM Veterans Memorial
 - i) Briefed on Warrior Veteran Service Building project

 - ii) Will provide more space for community groups to use and storage

 - iii) Expand library to 3x size of current footprint

 - iv) Provide small meeting rooms for community use

 - v) Provided PowerPoint presentation (attached)

Comments:

- 1) Memorial Board and CABQ (Pat Davis) have expressed full support of the project. They would like to get support from community partners.

- 2) There will be opportunities for private donations, fundraising and naming rights options

- c) **Bobby Ehrig:** CEO, VIC, speaking on status of homeless Veterans in NM
 - i) The number of homeless Veterans is increasing by 16.7% (reported by HUD in 2018). One of only four states that it is going up

 - ii) Approximately 12% to 15% of homeless Veterans are not registered in NM. Current registered 158,000 Veterans are those registered with the VA or DVS

 - iii) Currently there are 3 organizations that support Veteran homelessness (housing)
 - (1) VIC @450 Veteran families annually in emergency, transitional and rapid re-housing programs

 - (2) Goodwill @700 Veteran families annually in rapid re-housing program
 - (3) Messia Valley @20 Veteran families annually in rapid re-housing program of Hope

 - (4) This does not include any orgs trying to build tiny homes or other small home projects

 - (5) VIC has only emergency and transitional housing for Veteran families that can immediately house a family of up to 4 in NM

 - iv) Most common complex needs include mental health, substance use/abuse, and trauma (includes PTSD)

- v) Current demographics of those served by the VIC
 - (1) Male: 83% (2) Income: 87% with \$0
 - Female: 17%
- vi) In 2019 NM legislative session the state funded \$0 for Veteran homelessness
 - (1) Normally NM DVS would provide funding to help combat homelessness, but due to budget cuts they could no longer provide funding
 - (2) No other dedicated funds have been allocated in past by Legislature for homeless Veterans
 - (3) VIC is conducting advocacy to get Legislature to dedicated recurring funding to combat Veteran homelessness
- vii) CABQ has \$0 for Veterans or Veteran homelessness in last 5 years

6. Discussion of Advisory Board Charter (Tozier)

- a) Ad Hoc positions and who/what org should be represented (list attached)
- b) Explained how Ad Hoc members would work and their role in the VMAAB
- c) Requested 3 to 5 priority issues for the VMAAB to examine and report on for next FY
 - i) All members are to provide via email started by Chair Tozier before next meeting

Motion: Adopt list created as potential Ad Hoc members and create invite letter from CABQ to provide to them

Motion: Scramski

Second: Timm

MOTION PASSED

d) Update on if the Chair position of the VMAAB is to change (Tozier)

- i) Position will not change. Per CABQ to position will be filled by member of CABQ and has been designated as Tom Tozier until further notice

7. Significant Community Events (Board Members)

- a) Honor Flight NM Golf Fundraiser Sep. 27, 9am; Isleta Eagle Golf Course
- b) Unclaimed Veteran Funeral Ceremony Sep. 26, 11am; SantaFe National Cemetery
- c) Fisher House Grand Opening Oct. 11, 10am; Raymond G. Murphy VA
- d) ABQ Homeless Veterans Stand Down Oct. 24, 8am; Rock at Noon Day
- e) POW/MIA Remembrance Ceremony Sep. 20, 10am; NM Veterans Memorial

8. Reminder of next scheduled meeting: October 16, 2019

9. Motion to Adjourn meeting:

- a) **Motion:** Ehrig
- b) **Second:** Walmsley

MOTION PASSED

MEEETING ADJORNED AT 10:39am