

Veterans Advisory Board Minutes March 22, 2022

Date: March 22, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

Place: City Hall, Council Chambers; 700 N. Main., Las Cruces, NM

Members Present:

Karen Woods, Chair - UMWSW, United Military Women of the Southwest
 Rod Gajewski, Vice Chair - MOPH, Military Order of Purple Heart
 Victor Eres, Marine Corps League
 Hubert L. Gay, VVA, Vietnam Veterans of America
 Christine Sautter, MOAA,
 Daniel Ansbach, Special Forces Association
 Jesse Addison, VFW Post 3242 – Not present
 Patrick Ramirez, VFW Post 10124
 Sam Bothern, DAV Chapter 10
 James (JR) Turner, Member at Large 1
 Hector Sanchez, Member at Large 2 – Student
 Mike Cano, Member at Large 3

City Staff Present:

Eric Enriquez, Asst City Manager
 Larry Nichols, Community Development Director

<i>AGENDA ITEM</i>	<i>TIME RECORDING</i>	<i>DISCUSSIONS/CONCLUSIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS</i>	<i>ACTION TAKEN</i>
1. Call to Order	9:06	Chair Woods called the meeting of the Veterans Advisory Board to order	Board acknowledged Pledge by VAB
2. Approval of Meeting Agenda	9:11	Public Posted March 22, 2022, Agenda reviewed by VAB – motion at accept the agenda as amended change election title to “Chair” and “Vice Chair” in lieu “Pres and Vice Pres.” (VBM Grajewski) Motion by VABM -Mike Cano Second by VABM -James Turner	VAB unanimously approved - March 22,2022 meeting agenda by voice vote
3. Approval of Meeting Minutes	9:12	Minutes reviewed by VAB motion at accept the minutes as amended Typo corrections Motion by VABM - Mike Cano Second by VABM – James Turner	VAB unanimously approved - the March 22, 2022, minutes by voice vote

<p>4. Board Member Reports</p>	<p>9:13</p>	<p>Victor Eres, Marine Corps League, Marine Corps - Monument back to Vet. Park.</p> <p>Contacts made to host NM Color Guard Competition in Las Cruces on Apr 21, 8:00 to 15:00</p> <p>John Poland, American Legion Post 10 – welcome home Vietnam event.</p> <p>Sam Bothern, DAV Chapter 10 – DAV members going to El Paso for training</p> <p>Christine Sautter, MOAA – Starting Spring Swing program to give scholarships for JROTC & ROTC.</p> <p>Pass and review for NMSU held April 28.</p> <p>May 18th luncheon meeting with Secretary Sonia Smith, VA Services, Picacho Hills Country Club, we'll have more info.</p> <p>Hubert Gay, Vietnam Veterans - food drive 1st Sunday of each month</p> <p>Rod Gajewski, MOPH – Sisbarro luncheon.</p> <p>Golf tournament in May at NMSU – we'll have more info.</p> <p>Hector Sanchez, Member at Large- Program approved from NMSU for services to first time Vets. Will start Spring.</p> <p>March 23, Mental health summit at NMSU, at Corbett Center, from 9:00-15:00</p> <p>Mike Cano, Member at Large 3 – Easter egg hunt at Henry Miramontes Memorial Park in Anthony, TX. April 16th from 10:00-14:00</p>	<p>Read into record</p>
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		<p>Karen Woods, UMWSW – Annual spaghetti dinner, April 16th from 16:00-19:00pm. At Soup Kitchen, 999 Amador Ave.</p>	
<p>5. Public Participation</p>	<p>9:26</p>	<p>Josh Kitzmiller, Marine Corps Veteran - Offers Free Services/benefits for Veterans.</p> <p>Roy Maldonado, State Commander for VA Organization – Veterans Court, budget shortage will try to meet with Mayor and discuss.</p> <p>Mental Health Program from NMSU and VA, needs more veterans in the organization.</p> <p>Working with VA Writers Club and other organizations, to transport veteran’s bodies from different places.</p> <p>Bruce Varner, President of the Vietnam Veterans - Veterans Outreach partner with Prudential Financial to help with Wellness, have seminars available.</p> <p>Blood Drive at White Sands at building 250 March 29th from 13:00-14:30, June 8th 13:00-14:30, Aug. 10th 13:00-14:30, Oct 26th 13:00-14:30</p> <p>El Paso, Legacy of Valor for Americans have GI Form on March 26th from 7:30-16:00 at 6650 Continental Dr.</p> <p>Welcome home Vets on March 27th.</p> <p>Virtual Rural Outreach Symposium for Vet’s sign-up March 29th from 13:00-14:30</p> <p>Charity Golf course sign up available.</p> <p>Four Paws- taking donations for</p>	<p>Read into record</p>

		<p>cost-of-service dogs for vets.</p> <p>Montavious Price, El Paso, VA - Mental Health Summit, to help families as well as the veterans. Carrie Cordova, New Directive for the Veterans Treatment Court - Still needs people in the program.</p> <p>Rick Pineda, VA Services Liaison for Congresswoman - Update: Project approved, to bring more awareness and help to older vets in different rural areas.</p> <p>Jesus Morales, Caregiver Support Program from El Paso - We'll like to expand or reach different community services to help/give more resources to vets in need.</p> <p>Isabel Gonzales, Medical Foster Coordinator, El Paso - Update re: still need people to open more medical foster homes.</p> <p>Home Based Primary Care Program, new building should open in May.</p> <p>Rick Nesar, Director Marketing with Sisbarro - Comment re: Breakfast at Sisbarro's on March 26th</p> <p>Golf Tournament on May 6th</p>	
<p>6. Old Business</p>	<p>10:01</p>	<p>Franco Granillo, Parks and Rec. Administrator - Park updates, in April will bring monument, but still needs to be finalized.</p> <p>Signs being replace from damage.</p> <p>Lighting project completed. Still pending lighting to the Purple Heart.</p> <p>Process on changing clip for new flag.</p> <p>Eric Enriquez, Assistant City Mgr. - Updates re: process in getting funds for parking lot</p>	

<p>7. New Business:</p>	<p>10:12</p>	<p>Larry Nichols, Community Development, Director - Updates re: coordinating with Parks and Rec regularly on any issues brought up.</p> <p>Reviews for members of the board in terms of the office: 5 for 2023, 5 for 2024 and 3 for 2025.</p>	
<p>8. Reminders:</p>	<p>10:21</p>	<p>Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Easter April 17th Garrison dates stated Stand Down - Oct 2022 Next meeting May 24, 2022</p>	<p>Schedule of Events and Ceremonies presented by VVB</p>
<p>9. Adjournment</p>	<p>10:31</p>	<p>Chair Woods, requested motion to adjourn Motion by VABM Gajewski Second by VABM Turner</p>	<p>VAB unanimously approved by voice vote</p>