



**THE CITY OF NEW YORK
BOROUGH OF THE BRONX
COMMUNITY BOARD 7**



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT EMMANUEL MARTINEZ, CHAIRPERSON ISCHIA BRAVO, DISTRICT MANAGER

VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Chair:	Chad Royer
Meeting Date:	Wednesday, September 22nd, 2021
Meeting Time:	6:30 PM
Meeting Location:	Via Zoom Video/Teleconference
Members In Attendance:	✓ Chad Royer ✓ Emmanuel Asamoah ✓ Hugo Gonzalez ✓ Jean Hill ✓ Jeffery Hunter ✓ Helene Redd
Minutes done by:	Chad Royer

Minutes:

- I. Introductions**
- II. Review of previous minutes**
- III. Follow-up from previous month (If applicable)**
- IV. New Business**
 - a. Goals for The Committee**
 - i. The committee opened the meeting by addressing some topics they would like to address. Some of them include addressing the housing issues that veterans are facing, highlighting the challenges of transitioning from military life to civilian life, addressing the issue of suicidal events among veterans, assembling another roundtable event, addressing vaccine hesitations among veteran families, addressing methods of outreach to the veteran’s community, and providing solutions for veterans who have drug-related issues.**
 - b. Request from UCHC (Union Community Health Center)**
 - i. Veteran Liaison Raul Gonzalez of UCHC presented an idea that the organization wants to pilot. UCHC wants to be able to address the needs of veterans who are not able to travel outside or attend their medical centers by offering tablets and communication services for veterans so that they can get**



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medical care. The target population would be the older population of veterans as many of them tend to have problems with access to and knowledge of technology. UCHC would be interested in funding for jumpstarting the pilot program.

ii. UCHC also has additional funding requests for office needs but will organize the requests at a later date once they have more information.

V. Community District (CD) Budget Capital and Expense Request for 2023

a. The committee was informed of the opportunity to present any requests for consideration of the Community District Budget for 2023. The committee will consider some ideas for submission offline in advance of the October general board meeting.

VI. Idea on Memorial for Fallen Afghanistan Soldiers

a. The committee discussed an idea that came up regarding a memorial or a monument for the U.S. soldiers serving in Afghanistan who recent lost their lives this past summer. It was agreed that some demographics as well as individual residents may have many conflicting views on this as this is a sensitive matter.

i. The committee agreed to take Amjad Mujaahid's suggestion of reaching out to Department of Veterans Services (DVS) and seek an opinion on how this request would be best handled.

VIII. Vice Chairperson of the Veterans Committee

a. Helene Redd accepted the nomination for the vice chairperson of the Veterans Committee. The committee unanimously agreed to move forth with Helene Redd as the vice chairperson of the Veterans Committee.

IX. Next meeting date: Wednesday, October 20, 2021

X. Discussion on next agenda

XI. Adjournment