



THE CITY OF NEW YORK

BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

COMMUNITY BOARD 7



RUBEN DIAZ, JR. · BOROUGH PRESIDENT

ADALINE WALKER-SANTIAGO · CHAIRPERSON

ANDREW SANDLER · DISTRICT MANAGER

VETERANS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday · October 13, 2016 @ 7:30 PM

I. Committee Members In Attendance:

- A) Helene Hartman-Kutnowsky · Jeffrey Hunter · Ischia Bravo

Committee Members Excused Absence:

- A) Robyn L. Saunders · Anthony Perez · Shanequa Charles · Carlos Gonzalez

Attendees:

- A) Andrew Sandler, CB7 District Manager · Anthony Riveccio · Aldo Perez

II. Minutes Review:

- A) Minutes, reviewed and discussed from September 8, 2016 Committee Meeting.

III. Topics On Agenda:

- A) VetCenter Presentation · Keith Rivera · Medical Support Assistant
B) Bronx CB7 Veterans Committee Webpage Updated
C) Upcoming Scheduled Presentations
D) Upcoming Events

A. VetCenter Presentation · Keith Rivera, BBA · Medical Support Assistant

- i. Keith Rivera, BBA · VetCenter Medical Support Assistant made presentation on the broad range of services provided by the Bronx VetCenter. Services include counseling, outreach, and referral for Veterans and their families. Keith explained services are free of cost and strictly confidential. **Information Disseminated.**

B. Events Attended

- i. **September 30th, 2016:** Jeffery Hunter, Committee Member attended the Veteran's Business Information Fair at the James J. Peters VA Medical Center.
- ii. **October 3rd, 2016:** Robyn L. Saunders, Chair attended the Annual Hispanic Heritage Celebration 2016 with Adaline Walker-Santiago, Bronx CB7 Chair. The event hosted by Senator Jeff Klein and Assemblyman Mark Gjonaj whom highlighted the contributions of outstanding members of the Hispanic Community at the Havana Café.

Honorees included:

Democratic Nominee for the 31st Senatorial District **Honorable Marisol Alcantara**; President of 43rd Precinct Community Council; **Aurora Carrion**; Democratic District Leader of 85th Assembly District; **Honorable Antonia Figueroa**; Office Manager of Bronx CB9 **Maribel Mercado**; Community Activist/Volunteer **Candida Rosa**; Board of Director of Shorehaven Homeowners Association and President of Harbour Pointe Condominium Association **Nelly Santiago-Rivera.**



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"This celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month gives us the important opportunity to reflect on the contributions Latino and Hispanic Americans have made and look forward to the contributions our young leaders will make as they begin to shape our future. Thank you to Senator Jeff Klein and Assemblyman Mark Gjonaj for bringing so many of us together to honor the rich histories and cultures of Hispanic and Latino Americans," **said State Senator Adriano Espaillat.** (NYS Senate, 2016)

C. Veterans Committee Revised Web Page

- i. Robyn L. Saunders, Chair recently restructured the Bronx Community Board 7 Veterans Committee Web Page appearance layout, features, content, graphics and links. Includes recently adopted Mission Statement and Bronx Borough Presidents Veteran and Military Resource Guide. <http://www.bronxcb7.info/veterans-committee.html>
- ii. There's also a section dedicated to transition resources, educational resources, and state-specific job boards, individuals can create and post resumes, network with other veterans and find nearby career fairs. Site features include Facebook, Twitter Feeds, Youtube, Flickr, and Instagram enabling members to access a myriad of Veteran Organizations and Resources.
- iii. The Committee seeks to proactively source stories and news to communicate services, programs and events for Veterans, their dependents and families.

D. Scheduled Presentations • Community Partner Invitations

- i. **October 25th, 2016:** Invitation received to attend Bronx Workforce 1 Career Center Quarterly Community Partner and Veteran's Meeting. Meeting Agenda includes new Referral Process, highlight newly hired veteran staff, employment opportunities for Veterans and other services available.
- ii. **November 10th, 2016:** Sean Kingston, Veteran's Outreach Coordinator, is scheduled to make a PowerPoint presentation of new initiatives, programs and resources available at the James J. Peterson's Bronx VA.



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E. Upcoming Events

- i. **Friday, October 14, 2016: Hunt's Point Library 2nd Annual College and Career Fair:** NYS Assemblyman Marcos A. Crespo and NYC Council Member Rafael Salamanca, Jr. and NYPL (CEIS) Department at 877 Southern Boulevard – Bronx, New York 10458 from 11am – 5pm. ***Flyers Disseminated.***
- ii. **Monday, October 24, 2016: VETCON · Veterans in Economic Transition** Conference, where veteran can learn what it takes to be a small business owner. The event will be hosted at: Desmond Hotel. For more information: <http://www.vetconny.com>.
- iii. **Friday, October 28th, 2016:** Free Computer Classes: My HealthVet will provide 1:1 Assistance with registering and learning to use the system; located at James J. Peters VAMC, 130 Kingsbridge Road · Room 6C-01. For more information, please contact Jade Williams at 718.584.9000 ext. 6685.

Next Committee Meeting · Thursday, November 10th, 2016 at 7:30pm.