

New York City Veterans Advisory Board

Minutes for August 19, 2015 meeting held at:

Brooklyn Workforce 1 Career Center
9 Bond Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Members

Present:

Todd Haskins (Manhattan)	Charles Greinsky (Staten Island)
Charles Hernandez (Bronx)	Wendy McClinton (Brooklyn)
Joe Bello (Bronx)	Samuel Innocent (Bronx)
John Rowan (Queens)	Anthony “Tony” Odierno (Manhattan)
Jules Martin (Manhattan)	Vincent McGowan (Ex-Officio)

Absent:

Pat Devine (Bronx)	Mariel Juarez (Brooklyn) – Called in.
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Minutes

- John Rowan, Interim chair commenced the meeting.
- All VAB members introduced themselves to the audience.
- **Elections** were held and the following individuals were elected to one (1) year terms:
 - Todd Haskins - Chair
 - Samuel Innocent – Vice Chair
 - Joe Bello – Secretary
- Todd Haskins assumed chair duties.

Old Business: None

Presentations:

MOVA. Commissioner Sutton greeted the board members, welcomed the newly appointed members and congratulated the newly elected officers. She briefly overviewed jobs available at MOVA, the IDNYC card and workforce1. The Commissioner also announced that MOVA would be moving to 1 Centre Street in September and that Ms. Nicole Branca is the new Assistant Commissioner & Senior Advisor for Strategic Initiatives. She also introduced members of her staff to the board and audience.

Workforce1. Daniel Nisbett Jr. gave a briefing on who they are and what they do. They announced that 16 veterans were hired as teacher's assistants with the Department of Education and talked about jobs for veterans at the Barclay's Center.

IDNYC. Mr. Luke Hayes talked about the IDNYC Card and the veteran's designation. He also discussed the benefits available to veterans and stated he would be available for any questions.

Ft. Hamilton. CSM Fauntleroy talked about America Serves and how the DoD is working with them. Talked about the need to get veterans into jobs as DoD pays over 800 million in unemployment benefits. To help with this, he stated that two directives were signed last December. One was to give Veteran Service Organizations (VSOs) access to the base (Fort Hamilton) and the other one gives access to non-profits and non-DoD base members and their families. Lastly, CSM Fauntleroy stated that he will be transferring soon.

Catherine LaPorte from MOVA discussed jobs available within NYC and the September 10th "Hire Our Heroes" job fair.

Public Comments: The following individuals gave public comments to the board:

Trent Love:

Robert L. Swann: Talked about NYC Vendors issues and City Relations.

Robert Furman: Talked about the Brooklyn Preservation Department and the burial of veterans. Want to commemorate the Battle of Brooklyn by establishing a memorial park at 3rd Avenue and 9th Street in Park Slope Brooklyn as it's believed that the Marylanders who died fighting were buried in that area.

Dr. Robert Farley: Talked about Vendors, Homelessness and Clothes for veterans. Stated that he provides free legal services for veterans and that he will be operating out of a McDonalds in every borough because he was not being offered any space at the new MOVA location.

Dondi McKellar: Talked about NYC Vendors. Stated that there are 20,000 vendors operating in NYC and only 853 licenses are available. Talked about specialized disabled veteran's food vending permits (V-permits, which have no caps). Stated he, working with the Street Vendors Project have submitted a proposal to the Speaker's Office.

Howard Dalton: Talked about NYC Vendors. Discussed 35a, a state law which governs how to vend in New York City.

Bill Moses: Stated that he work for the Department of State since 1997 and is now looking for a venture in which to serve veterans.

New Business: None.

Meeting Adjourned.

Next Meeting: October 2, 2015 (Bronx)

Submitted by: Joe Bello, Secretary