Regular Meeting of the Veterans Advisory Board
October 13, 2026 at 5:00 PM
202 E Marcy St #101
Santa Fe, NM 87507
MINUTES

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1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

MEMBERS PRESENT
Gary Donato
Stephen Kapin
Anna Vigil
James Colonel Williams
Larry Hinkle
Steven Breniger
Elizabeth "Liz" Rickert
Ari Jontry

MEMBERS EXCUSED
Josh Maher

OTHER PARTICIPANTS ATTENDING
Matthew Blood-Smyth, Program Manager/Liaison

3. Approval of Agenda

MOTION A motion was made by Gary, seconded by Steve, to approve agenda

VOTE The motion passed on a voice vote.

4. Approval of Minutes

    a. Agenda added to Civic Clerk after Open Meetings Act Deadline — Minutes to be approved at the following meeting.

Tabled to 11/17

5. Public Comment

6. New Business

New Business: Awaiting final notification from National Guard on Keynote Speaker and Chaplain, due this week. Once received will enter into program and submit final to Staff Liaison for printing (will need 250 – 300 copies).

Gary noted all dignitaries/invitees notified via email and hardcopy. Steven will deliver State Representative and Senator hardcopies this week.

Gary and Commander American Legion Post 12 contacted Middle Schools several times for 7th grade essay competition (What is Veterans Day and What Does It Mean to Me) – no responses from school teachers. If none, Gary as Emcee will read the History of Veteran Day.

a.
    a. All invites sent out – All via email and councilors/legislators also hardcopy.
    b. Veteran Day Program (note will need to print 300+ copies before Ceremony)
    c. Middle School participation in writing competition (Veteran Day & Meaning)
        i. Contacted Milagro and Ortiz; Capshaw is no longer operating. Awaiting responses.

7. Old Business

a.
    a. Veteran Parade and Ceremony updates. e.g. Finalize lineup.
    b. Update on Governing Body approval of new members
    c. VAB Website updates with present membership photos/bio
    d. VAB Brochures

Old Business: Board discussed updates for Veteran parade. Larry informed board of ordering of coffee, donuts and waters for the Parade participants and water for the Ceremony. Gary and Steven will set up flags on 11/10, Larry will deliver waters on 11/10 also. Tables should be set up by Museum staff.

Gary provided bios and pictures of board members to Staff Liaison to finally update the VAB City Website.Awaiting VAB Brochures to have ready for the Veteran Day Ceremony.

8. Presentations

9. Matters from the Committee

Matters from Committee: Gary requested any/all input for the 3rd quarter report. Input must be connected to items in the Strategic Plan.

Adam brought up goal of the Committee is to foster synergy amongst all veteran groups and employers of veterans. Part of the Strategic Plan (especially as outlined in addenda).

10. Matters from Staff

11. Next Meeting:

a.

a. Tuesday 17 November, 2026 (Focus hotwash of Veterans Day)

12. Adjourn

adjourned at 5:57

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Mayor Alan Webber

Attested To By:

_____
Geralyn F. Cardenas, Interim City Clerk

Respectfully Submitted by:

_____
Elisabeth Martin
Stenographer