

**Veterans Advisory Board Minutes**  
**April 23, 2019**  
**City Hall, Room 2007-B**

Open Meeting: The Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call:**

Member at Large #1	Lawrence Orvis, Chairman
Special Forces Association	Kyle Trout, Vice Chairman
American Legion Post 10	Ed Torres (absent)
DAV Chapter 10	Sam Bothern
Marine Corps League	Carol Gaines
Member at Large #2	Hector Sanchez
Member at Large #3	Mike Cano
Military Order of the Purple Heart	Rod Gajewski
MOAA	Christine Sautter
United Military Women of the SouthWest	Karen Woods (absent)
Vietnam Veterans	Fred Schneider (absent)
VFW Post 3242	Jesse Addison
VFW Post 10124	Patrick Ramirez

*(A quorum of appointed members was present)*

**Approval of Agenda** for today's meeting was motioned by Sam Bothern and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Carol Gaines. All members that are present voted unanimously.

**Introduction of Guests:**

NM Dept. Veterans Service	James Turner
Mayor's Liaison	Dolores Archuleta
American Legion	Lester Palmer
American Legion Auxiliary	Patricia Torres
DAC HHS	Athena Huckaby
LC Vet Center	Dale Lawrence
VA	Gina McCue
VA	Michael Amaral
VA- LC CBOC	Ben Gilbert
AARP	Abel Chavarria
NMCDHH	Susana Santillan

**City of Las Cruces Staff:**

Eric Enriquez	Board Coordinator
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**Acceptance of Minutes**, Mike Cano motioned to approve the minutes from February 26, 2019. Sam Bothern 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, all members that are present voted unanimously. Sam Bothern motioned to approve the minutes from March 26, 2019. Patrick Ramirez 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, all members present voted unanimously.

## Old Business

- **Gold Star Monument-** Mike Cano presented an image of the Gold Star Monument. Initial costs will be around 14k. Fundraising will need to begin to raise funds for the monument. Mike Cano made a motion to proceed with the Gold Star Monument at Veterans Park. Kyle Trout 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All members voted unanimously.

## New Business- NONE

## Public Participation

- **VA Clinic Name- Michael Amaral** found out that there is a VA policy that states if a building is going to be memorialized, it must be after an individual or group. Mr. Amaral will be in Washington DC for other meetings and will discuss this matter.
- **Salute Across America- Dolores Archuleta** presented a press release and flyer about the 2019 Salute Across America Tour. The event will be on May 2<sup>nd</sup> beginning at 6pm at Veterans Park. Mr. Turner suggested that the Garrison Flag be flown during the event.
- **American Legion Auxiliary Events Updates- Patricia Torres** 100 Year Celebration for 100 Year of the Joe Quesenberry Post 10 will take place this Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, from 10am to 2pm. On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Auxiliary will be having an enchilada and taco fundraiser event from 11:30am to 5:30pm. Take out is available. May 13<sup>th</sup>, the American Legion will be having an election.
- **Memorial Day Candlelight Vigil- Rod Gajewski** provided a flyer for the upcoming ceremony. It will be held May 27<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at Veterans Park.
- **11<sup>th</sup> Annual Wreath Memorial- Lawrence Orvis** May 26<sup>th</sup> will be the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Wreath Memorial at St. Josephs Cemetery.
- **Abel Chavarria-** AARP is asking for permission from the board to use Veterans Park to hold a Health Fair Event on October 26<sup>th</sup>.
- **Gina McCue-** Free civil legal clinic for low income veterans will be held at VFW Post 10124 on Valley Drive on April 26<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 12pm. Please call the number on the flyer to prescreen.
- **Dale Lawrence-** Ruth Offutt, Director of the Vet Center, will be retiring next Wednesday.
- **Susana Santillan-** the State of New Mexico Commission for Deaf & Hard of Hearing (NMCDHH) provides free resources for hearing impaired.
- **Athena Huckaby-** NM Department of Health & Human Services has a grant to distribute Naloxone, the opioid overdose antidote.
- **Dolores Archuleta-** the Southern New Mexico Fallen Peace Officers Memorial ceremonies will be on May 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm downtown Las Cruces and May 7<sup>th</sup> at Mesilla Park Community Church on El Paso at 10am.

## Board Member Reports

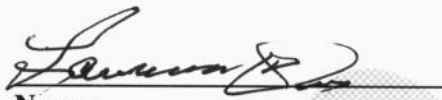
- **Carol Gaines-** Marine Corps League El Perro Diablo celebrated its birthday. It was established April 12, 1981. MCL honor guard attended 14 funerals in January, 14 funerals in February and 11 in March.
- **Patrick Ramirez-** the VFW Post 10124 will have karaoke Friday. Saturday the 27<sup>th</sup>, there will be a spaghetti dinner fundraiser for the New Mexico American School from

12pm to 3pm. Hospice will be having a yard sale on the 27<sup>th</sup> at Peter Piper from 8am to 2pm. On Sunday the 28<sup>th</sup> there will be senior breakfast at 9am.

- **Sam Bothern-** one of the DAV transport vans was stolen. It was found abandoned on Valley Drive towards Dona Ana. Repairs will need to be made to it.
- **Jesse Addison-** is feeling better after knee replacement surgery.
- **Hector Sanchez-** NMSU will be having the cord ceremony for 65 graduating veterans. The ceremony will be held at the Gerald Thomas Auditorium from 6-7:30pm. *Took Place May 3rd*
- **Mike Cano-** Honor Flight will be May 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup>. There are 31 veterans attending.
- **Chief Enriquez-** the City Manager, Stuart Ed, has resigned. Mr. Bill Studar has been appointed as Interim City Manager and will continue to work on issues with Veterans Park. The Fire Department will be graduating 17 cadets this Friday at DACC East Mesa Campus at 1:30pm. Chief Enriquez will work with Police Chief Gallagher to make sure events throughout the City in May have proper traffic control and to get a contact name and number for Mr. Turner.

**Next Meeting: June 25, 2019**

**Adjournment:** Carol Gaines motioned to have the meeting adjourned, *inaudible* 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All members present voted unanimously.

  
Name

5-28-2019  
Date