



Agenda

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VETERANS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, July 13, 2016

Market Station

Conference Room

500 Market Station

3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes: June 8, 2016
4. New Business/Action Items:
 - a. VAB Veterans Coordinator Position Job Description/Duties– Greg Scargall
 - b. Veterans Outdoor Program– Chris Calvert
 - c. Presentation–Co-Sponsor for Sept. 11th Memorial Event– Greg Scargall
5. Old Business:
 - a. Update on Assistance and Scholarship Fund – Greg Scargall/Chris Sanchez
 - b. Update on Webpage– Chris Sanchez
 - c. Update on reappointments of VAB members – Chris Sanchez
 - d. Update on Veterans Employment Summit – Sept. 2016 – Philip Hernandez, NMDWS
 - e. Update on Sept. 17, 2016 – VVA 996 Matanza/50th Anniversary Vietnam War Event – Chris Calvert
 - f. Update on Operating Procedures on Veteran Assistance Fund– Greg Scargall
 - g. Update on 4th of July Community Run– Chris Sanchez
6. Comments from the Chair and Advisory Members
7. Report from Staff
8. Public Comment
9. Adjournment

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**VETERANS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
 MARKET STATION CONFERENCE ROOM
 500 MARKET STATION
 WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 2016, 3:00 PM**

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| UPDATE OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2016 - VVA 996 MANTANZA/50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIETNAM WAR EVENT | INFORMATION/DISCUSSION | 10-11 |
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**VETERANS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
MARKET STATION CONFERENCE ROOM
500 MARKET STATION
WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 2016, 3:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Veterans Advisory Board was called to order by Chair Chris Calvert, at 3:00 pm, on Wednesday, July 13, 2016, at the Market Station Conference Room, 500 Market Station, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chris Calvert, Chair
Greg Scargall, Vice Chair
Chris Abeyta
Kenneth Dettelbach
Phillip Chavez
Henry B. F. Hughes
Dorothy Seaton

MEMBERS ABSENT

Sigrid Hannah Mabel, Excused
Carmen Rodriguez, Excused

OTHERS PRESENT

Philip Hernandez, NMDWS
Jonathan Hernandez
Chris Sanchez, Staff Liaison, Director of Children and Families, City of Santa Fe
Julie Sanchez, Staff Liaison
Larry De La Garza, Hope UC Santa Fe
Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION A motion was made by Mr. Dettelbach, seconded by Ms. Seaton, to approve the agenda as presented.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
JUNE 8, 2016**

MOTION A motion was made by Mr. Dettelbach, seconded by Mr. Scargall, to approve the minutes as presented.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

5. NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

**A. VAB VETERANS COORDINATOR POSITION JOB
DESCRIPTION/DUTIES**

Mr. Scargall said timing is key to making a recommendation to the Governing Body and the Mayor to create the Veteran Coordinator position in the City of Santa Fe. We need to have someone dedicated to serving Veterans. Having an understanding of where the City is at financially and from insight from Chris and Board members has led him to this belief. He passed out a draft job description. Maybe in January we can submit something. We are hoping we can put together a comprehensive package in the next couple of months. We have used a grass roots approach in the past and have been successful. We will have people write letters in support of the need to the Mayor and to their Councilor. We can start that in the next month.

Mr. Dettelbach said it is a great idea but do we want this individual to work with this group or be totally independent.

Mr. Scargall said they would be a City staff person.

Mr. Sanchez asked would they fall under his department.

Mr. Scargall said he is not sure. This was the Mayor's idea.

Mr. Hughes asked do you see it as being appropriate in your department Chris.

Mr. Sanchez said yes. The question he has is based on budget shortfall. The Council is not approving any positions. If the Mayor wants something like this that depends on timing.

Chair Calvert said perhaps it might fall under your area. What would be the dedication of time for one of your staff.

Mr. Sanchez said when he took over the Board he was down a position. Now we have a full time position who could be dedicated. He wants to caution everyone that we need to be wise here to not create something they will not approve. If we are smart and strategic we could build the momentum on this.

Mr. Dettelbach said he thinks we should be building this Advisory Council in importance and knowledge. It might come through your department but could be a Board member. Will this be thrown back in our laps to use allocated money to pay for it.

Mr. Sanchez said he is going through a process right now with the Human Services Committee on a similar request.

Mr. Dettelbach said it is not a bad thing. We could allocate some funds to that and have them be responsible to the Board.

Mr. Chavez asked would the position be a priority for a Veteran or disabled Veteran.

Mr. Scargall said yes.

Mr. Sanchez said the Children and Youth Planner reports to the Board.

Mr. Scargall said there needs to be some language that guarantees that a Veteran be hired to serve in this capacity. We need the time of someone who can continue the torch throughout the month.

Ms. Seaton asked can a City employee also serve on this Board.

Mr. Sanchez said no, that is incompatible. They could be a liaison to it.

Mr. Scargall said that is the structure that Albuquerque uses.

Chair Calvert said in Albuquerque, he is officially in the Mayor's Constituent Services Department but has responsibility for Veterans issues. There are constituent services here in the City of Santa Fe. He doesn't know if you want that.

Mr. Abeyta said he worries about other duties as assigned. He would not want this person to be absorbed by the City. Who is going to assign the duties.

Ms. Seaton said that is a good point.

Mr. Abeyta said he doesn't want them to get sucked into something they are not hired to do.

Mr. Scargall said we can make that clear.

Mr. Sanchez said the hard part within our Division is that we are responsible for a lot of different committees. We have to be very careful how this person's time is allocated.

Mr. Hughes asked would this person respond to requests by phone.

Mr. Scargall said they would direct traffic through phone calls and other means to direct the Veteran where he or she needs to go to get assistance.

Mr. Hughes asked do you envision a time that this City employee would sit down and take the time to walk them through the paperwork.

Mr. Scargall said yes. Move the ball forward.

Mr. Sanchez said if they do not pass this because they are not doing any new positions how do we restructure that within his Department. Is this Board willing to dedicate some of their funds to create this position.

Mr. Scargall said putting a little money into the pot is only a short term fix. It is high stakes. We want to ensure we will have hundreds of letters from the constituency.

Mr. Sanchez said that is great. The Immigration Committee is doing the same thing.

Mr. Dettelbach said this Advisory group needs to become sustainable year after year. We have to build the image of this Advisory Group. When the check was handed over to the college we needed to do some publicity. He is in Rotary with US Bank. They are going to allocate scholarship funds for Veterans to the college thanks to Greg. We leveraged on what we did here and got others to do it.

Mr. Sanchez said if the Mayor said that to you and wants to get it done that is major.

Mr. Scargall said he does. There are always going to be constraints. We need to put our best foot forward and advocate for it.

Chair Calvert said his understanding of Roger's position at the City of Albuquerque is that he is first and foremost a traffic director. He directs people to where they can get help. He refers people to other agencies and makes sure Veterans within the city get recognized. Most of what their Veterans Advisory Board does is celebrations and events. We are doing more here. It might help you to justify the position more. He is part time doing this for a much bigger population. The duties on this sheet are much more than what he is doing. If we try to contract this person

ourselves we need to have a self starter, a committed person. If they are within the City you negotiate with them about how much of

that persons time is to be spent on Veterans things.

Mr. Scargall said that is why it would be important to be within a department like Chris'. The Veterans need that person.

Chair Calvert said he does not think he provides services. He refers people to service providers.

Mr. Chavez said in a sense we are recreating the wheel. If he does referrals to places who assist that would be great.

Chair Calvert said we don't want to duplicate what is already being done. They are referring, not filling gaps.

Mr. Chavez said make sure they can do a lot of referrals.

Mr. Dettelbach said he would like to look at this and in the next two weeks have everyone get an email to Greg with their thoughts and see what he comes back with.

Chair Calvert said this a good start. Everyone needs to look at this, reflect on it and come back to next meeting to discuss it.

Mr. Scargall said there needs to be a person who is serving the community of Veterans here in Santa Fe County.

Ms. Seaton said what she is hearing Greg describe is a marketing person with referral skills. We need to be careful in our expectations so that we don't lay too deep of a skill set out there for too little money.

Chair Calvert said they need to be knowledgeable and have an ability to generate PR and be at events. They need the ability to write up an event, take pictures, be enthusiastic and promote the ability of the City to help out.

Ms. Seaton said each of us may have in our mind a vision of what we think that person should do. We need to get that on the table.

Chair Calvert said everyone take the time to look at what Greg did and be ready to make comments at the next meeting.

Mr. Hughes said he thinks the thing that interests him is on the first part of the job description he was a bit turned off by the marketing. We need to de-emphasize.

Chair Calvert said not to be self serving but to let the Veterans know where to go as a first stop.

B. VETERANS OUTDOOR PROGRAM

Chair Calvert said he has been in contact with the Veterans Centers and the Sierra Club. They are interested in organizing returning Veterans and outdoor programs. This is something they might be able to get younger Veterans interested in. It is a way to get them to participate and open up and is a type of therapy. He is putting these people together for now. An official training program is scheduled for this in October. Being on this Board and a member of the Sierra Club, he will work from both angles to make sure this gets supported. The Sierra Club is running the training and has set up this program in other communities.

Chair Calvert said it included things like going on a hike, back packing trips and service projects outdoors. They will do these things as a group of peers. Eventually, they hope it will expand out into the community.

Mr. Scargall said there are a few organizations that do these kind of things. Also there is a program called Veterans Outdoors out of Texas. Project Healing Waters kind of fell apart because we needed people to teach fly tying and other things.

Chair Calvert said he has a person who works at the Veterans Center in Albuquerque who wants to do this. He wants official training.

Ms. Seaton asked is it like Sierra Hike Leader Training.

Chair Calvert said it is more than that.

Mr. Dettelbach said there are three organizations here that do that.

Chair Calvert said he wants to do this in the course of his job. Those other organizations are great. This opportunity presented itself. There is support for this. He is taking these people up on it. They are trying to get something established and official.

Mr. Dettelbach said there is Listening Horse, Cowboy Up, Horses for Heros and last week he and his wife took four Veterans and their wives to a private place on the river that they have. There are things happening. You should accumulate those things and give them to those folks in Albuquerque.

Chair Calvert said this program has been in place with the Sierra Club for over five years. He is just saying here is an organization available and a gentleman from

Albuquerque interested in it.

Mr. Scargall asked is there a cost for training.

Chair Calvert said there is no cost. The gentleman interested is a licensed mental health therapist.

Chair Calvert said he is trying to inform the Board that he is trying to set this relationship up and they may come back to the Board for support.

Mr. Scargall said he would support it.

Mr. Hughes said it sounds good.

Chair Calvert said he wanted something sanctioned. He will put him in touch with others.

Mr. Scargall said he would like to be involved in the training.

Mr. Chavez said we are losing twenty six Veterans a day to suicide. Anything that helps is welcome. Vietnam Veterans are just starting to come out.

Chair Calvert said he will continue to work with them.

C. PRESENTATION - CO-SPONSOR FOR SEPTEMBER 11TH MEMORIAL EVENT

Mr. Scargall said he was approached by the two guys who are here today to set up a September 11th event for Veterans and first responders.

Mr. Hernandez said he just moved here in January from California. He is starting a church and he has heart for the military. We are putting 60,000 flyers out at homes for the opening of our church on September 11th. We want to love on these families. We will be taking free family photos and will have a trumpet player. What if on our grand opening Phillip sets up a table about what he can offer at his facility and others can do so as well. We all believe in people and that is what we believe in as a church. We have signed a contract with Warehouse 21 and we will meet there. We will be renovating some and painting. We just want to help serve the Veterans. We also just adopted Gonzales School. Do you want to be part of that day.

Mr. Hernandez passed out cards and said we have a website as well.

Mr. Sanchez asked when did you do a contract with Warehouse 21.

Mr. Hernandez said a couple of months ago. He is on the Board. We have a special affinity for northern New Mexico. His wife was born in Taos.

Mr. Scargall asked has the City ever talked about something on 9/11. Why don't we have fire engines and huge flags and a moment of silence. We could play Taps. Invite first responders. We could have a color guard. Have we ever done something like that here.

Mr. Sanchez said not that he recalls.

Mr. Abeyta said it depends on how big you want it to be. It is important. A lot of people support that whole idea of how it brought people together. It was tragic but something that made people more patriotic. He is concerned about working a partnership but not supporting a specific church.

Mr. Hernandez said 9/11 is on a Sunday. That is why we want to capitalize on it. My church name or my name does not have to be on anything.

Mr. Abeyta said it is a great idea. Some people might think it was to draw people into your church. We would have to make it a City event. It could be a huge event.

Mr. Scargall said he agrees with Mr. Abeyta. As a community we could put together something.

Mr. Abeyta said it would be intense. We should get as many churches and fire departments as possible to participate.

Mr. Scargall asked do we have the ability as an organization to take the lead on pulling this together. Can we do a BBQ for the community. Cook hamburgers and hot dogs and also do the ceremonial piece. We do things like that three times a year at the Community College.

Chair Calvert said for now we need to reflect on this and come back with a proposal or plan if we want to do something like that.

Mr. Scargall asked can we do an event this year.

Chair Calvert said he doesn't know.

Mr. Hernandez said regarding our 60,000 flyers, what if we designed something to put on back of his flyer that talks about the event. Another idea would be do an art show from every war until 9/11 or now. We would love to help you any way we can.

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. UPDATE ON ASSISTANCE AND SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Chair Calvert said the scholarship thing has happened.

Mr. Scargall said he is so thankful for this Board and Chris Sanchez for all of his efforts. The College got a check for \$18,000 to start and Community Foundation is going to match those funds. That money is going to change peoples lives. We need to do some press around that and the first awardees. It is a big deal. It is a huge accomplishment of the Board. He commended everyone.

Mr. Sanchez said he talked to the Mayor and is in the process right now of writing up a press release. He wants to get it done. He is going to include this and other things that are getting done.

Chair Calvert asked is the VIC thing moving along.

Mr. Sanchez said yes.

Mr. Scargall said he received informally from the President that the Community College will administer those funds.

Mr. Sanchez said he will work on that with them.

Chair Calvert asked have we finalized the procedure and process.

Mr. Scargall said he will have a draft of that.

Chair Calvert said part of the concern is can we respond quickly. We need a mechanism to do that.

Mr. Scargall said he will have the formal process and MOU at the next meeting.

Chair Calvert said we need to have all this in place before we advertise it.

B. UPDATE ON WEBPAGE

Mr. Sanchez said we are ready to go. He has had staff out there getting the information together. The web staff is ready to do the video. They just want to know who we want them to film. He is putting Julia through training and she will work on it as well. It just needs the word to move forward.

Chair Calvert said he has the list of resources. He will share that with the Board and asks that they fill in the blanks and tweak it.

Mr. Sanchez said the web staff will create a Veterans page. Julia will control it and maintain it.

Mr. Scargall said our hope is that it has a link on the City's main page.

Mr. Sanchez said it will.

Mr. Dettelbach said he thinks the Board members should have VAB cards that we can hand out with the website on it. We had the Mayor at last Hispanic Chamber outing. They are doing Veteran program on the 8th. We could hand out cards with the resources site.

Mr. Scargall said we can also put that on for the next meeting with a marketing update.

Mr. Sanchez said we could use what we used on the coin on the cards.

Chair Calvert said are we are going to get something sent to us so we can make comments.

Mr. Sanchez said yes.

C. UPDATE ON REAPPOINTMENTS OF VAB MEMBERS

Mr. Sanchez said the two members who need to be appointed are Ken and Carmen. Both would like to be reappointed. He will submit the paperwork.

Chair Calvert asked that he send the Board members an updated list of members of the Board.

D. UPDATE ON VETERANS EMPLOYMENT SUMMIT - SEPTEMBER, 2016

Chair Calvert said he put the people in charge of that with appropriate City staff. It is moving forward.

E. UPDATE OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2016 - VVA 996 MANTANZA/50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIETNAM WAR EVENT

Chair Calvert said this has been approved. Regarding the funding part of it how long will it take to get the money.

Mr. Sanchez said three weeks tops.

Mr. Dettelbach said they have identified the pigs, have seventy volunteers, the T shirts are finished and he is going to take a picture of the t shirt for you Mr. Sanchez so you can forward to everyone. They have the marketing going. They will have the VAB table and banner there and will do a KSVB interview. If we have the cards we will put them on every table. We have printed eight hundred tickets. We will have music, over thirty awards, a bucket auction and door prizes.

Chair Calvert asked is Walmart a sponsor. They are an official sponsor of the 50th Anniversary.

Mr. Sanchez asked how long will it take to get a draft copy of a card. No names on it.

Mr. Scargall said he will send it to him.

F. UPDATE ON OPERATING PROCEDURES ON VETERANS ASSISTANCE FUND

This item was discussed previously.

G. UPDATE OF 4TH OF JULY COMMUNITY RUN

Mr. Sanchez said the Resolution date is coming up for Council. Parks and Recreation has a team working on this for next year but we have to respond to the Council's request.

Mr. Scargall said the key component is can the City take in monies for registration and sales of goods.

Chair Calvert said he talked to Kelly, the City Attorney, on this and she said we cannot use our resources to promote a fundraiser.

Mr. Scargall said what if we had a sponsor for that and the proceeds to go to us.

Chair Calvert said Kelly said she has had requests from other departments and committees who want to do similar things. She wants to look at it universally.

Mr. Sanchez said if we can get the run scheduled everything else will fall in place.

Chair Calvert said if the objective is to raise money we need to get that worked

out.

Mr. Scargall said it has the potential to raise lots of money.

Chair Calvert said we need clarification.

Mr. Scargall said the Veterans Club could be used if it becomes a City thing.

Mr. Sanchez asked how he was to respond to the Governing Body.

Chair Calvert said tell them you are working with the City Attorney's office.

Mr. Dettelbach said we do work for De Vargas Center. They are interested in talking to us about a partnership with the run. He can work on that.

Mr. Sanchez said he will respond to the Governing Body. Do we create a subcommittee to work on this.

Chair Calvert said he and Mr. Sanchez will meet between now and the next meeting to work with the City Attorney to get clarification about how this could operate.

Mr. Scargall said he agrees 100%.

Chair Calvert said he appreciates the offer of Mr. Dettelbach.

Mr. Abeyta said the earlier the better.

7. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR AND ADVISORY MEMBERS

Ms. Seaton said she attend the meeting in Albuquerque of providers. She learned that in 2018 the VA is bringing the VA Golden Age Games into Albuquerque. It is a long time out but we may want to be a part of this. It will be high visibility.

Chair Calvert asked are there any details.

Ms. Seaton said no, it is in the informative stages. Also on Tuesday, September 13th at the State Fair it is Military and Veteran Appreciation Day. She met the new staff member at DVS who is the Women's Coordinator. For a long time there has been a Museum of the American Military Family and it recently found a home in Tijeras. The Director is a father and daughter team. They have a mobile museum display called Operation Foot Locker that can come to local events. She also met Roger Newall.

Chair Calvert said those meetings are good for networking.

Mr. Abeyta said at the end of month he is going to Ireland. He is going to play music in their summer concert series.

Mr. Dettelbach said we could put that on the website.

Chair Calvert said we said back when we started that we would have a regular update on our finances. We have not had that. He is going to propose that we have that for the next meeting. We want to include what our total fund balance is, things we already spent money on and were allocated and where we are. We will see how well the check off is going.

Mr. Dettelbach asked are we required to use 100% of the money every year.

Chair Calvert said no. We set up a budget for about half of the money designated.

Chair Calvert said a couple of Councilors approached him because they got an email from a Veteran about fire works. There are PTSD issues. We can talk more about this at the next meeting. The person asked if there is anything the City can do. The Councilors are looking to us to support some kind of effort to control fireworks better. They are asking if we can support them in this kind of effort for the Veterans who do suffer.

Mr. Dettelbach said there are not enough resources in enforcement to deal with that.

Chair Calvert said the question is will we support whatever they want to do.

Mr. Scargall said we could do a PSA.

Mr. Hughes said yes, be kind to Veterans.

Chair Calvert said he could feel the fire works inside his house.

Ms. Seaton said, tell them yes, we will support the Council in whatever means they have.

Mr. Scargall said we could do PSAs and signs.

Ms. Seaton said signs don't control.

Mr. Hughes said we could sponsor an alternative celebration.

Chair Calvert said we can talk more about this at the next meeting so we can get back to the Councilors.

Mr. Abeyta said his son is Executive Director of the Santa Fe Boys and Girls Club who do the parking at the City fire works event. He lives by a private party and it was very loud. He enjoyed the one they did by Marty Sanchez, but the animal shelter had problem with that. Is it the animals or the Veterans.

Chair Calvert said the City has sponsored events on the 4th and Zozobra. It is one thing to have a controlled event that you can get away from but all this free for all is too much.

Ms. Seaton said give feedback to the Council and tell them that yes we support them on this.

Chair Calvert said State law controls this. Maybe this coming Legislature we can lobby them to give home rule cities more latitude on how they do it.

Ms. Seaton said we could collaborate with the State Patrol to get more bodies out.

Mr. Dettelbach said we can make some kind of statement that we support the laws on the books and the enforcement of those laws would be appropriate. The police are really stretched on that night. Our statement could be about the effect on Veterans with PTSD.

Mr. Abeyta said we could make radio statements to make the community aware.

Mr. Hughes said a statement providing community education would be good.

8. REPORT FROM STAFF

None

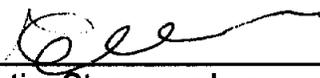
9. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Chris Calvert, Chair



Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer