



Virtual (WebEx) Commission Meeting

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Meeting Agenda Thursday, March 4, 2021 1900-2030 hrs

1. Roll Call of Commission Members for Establish Quorum:

Mr. J. Greg Jolissaint, Chair
Mr. Jonathan K. Branch, Co-Chair
Mr. Reginald Avery
Mr. Michael Blum
Mr. Steven M. Bolen
Ms. Nafrettifi Griffin
Mr. Michael Griggs
Ms. Kelly Kesler
Mr. Robert Lowell
Mr. Keith McGuire



Mr. Paul Rivers

Acknowledgement of Howard County Government Officials in Attendance:

Ms. Lisa Terry (Manager, Howard County Office of Veterans and Military Families)

Special Guest(s):

Others in Attendance:

2. Meeting Opened by Meeting Chair

Meeting Chair will lead attendees in the **Pledge of Allegiance** (*everyone except the Chair should mute their microphones*)

3. Reminders of Virtual Meeting etiquette (*please stay muted; utilize the WebEx Chat box to notify chair if anyone has a comment or question; if calling in, please don't place the phone on "hold"*)

4. Consideration of the February 2021 Meeting Minutes

5. Presentation by Invited Guests: ??

6. Old Business:

a. Update on Survey Proposed by the Commission's Subcommittee on Equity and Racial Justice (Jonathan Branch and Lisa Terry):

*status of Final Draft survey review by Howard County Officials

b. Update on February Meeting of the Veterans Support Group (Paul Rivers)

c. Feedback on February VAMHCS Meeting (Steve Bolen)

d. Update on Veterans Day Presentations in HoCo Schools (Reg Avery)

e. Update on MHFA Proposal to the FMA Foundation Board (John Way)

f. Update on Regional Veteran Symposium in Lieu of Annual Veteran Resource Fair (Lisa)

g. Update on Howard County Web-Based Veterans Tribute (similar to Montgomery County) – Lisa Terry



- h. Update on 2 Commissioner Nominations (Dr. Cherron Blakely; COL Eric Towns) -- Lisa

7. Business “On Hold”

- a. Columbia Lake Monument completion; fundraising for the monument; dedication ceremony (**donations can still be made by mail**)
- b. Howard County Schools “Buddy Program” for incoming military family members
- c. Exploratory Committee to Investigate the Feasibility of Building a Veterans Home in Howard County (Mike Blum)

8. New Business

- a. Update on 7th Annual Veterans Day Parade and Ceremony 2021 (John Spain)
- b. Memorial Day and ceremonies at 4 Howard County sites (Ed Hall)
- c. Flag Retirement April 17th (Ed Hall)
- d. Potential Collaboration with Rotary Club (Lisa Terry)
- e. Howard County Joint Military Council (JMC) significant items (Ed Hall, John Spain)
- f. Legislative Affairs Update (Steve)
- g. Other Items of Interest (Greg, Lisa)
- h. New business from Commission Members (Greg will facilitate)
- i. Comments or requests for other meeting attendees (Greg will facilitate)

9. Other Announcements or dates of importance (All)

*Flu Shots; COVID Vaccinations

10. Next Commission Meeting Date(s)

Thursday March 4, 2021; Thursday April 1, 2021; Thursday May 6, 2021

11. Adjournment

