



## Virtual (WebEx) Commission Meeting

### WebEx URL:

<https://howardcountymd.webex.com/howardcountymd/j.php?MTID=mcbab52641f8c5d8cec305dcef7e60706>;

### Join from a mobile device (attendees only)

[+1-650-479-3207](tel:+1-650-479-3207), [18007551733](tel:+1-800-755-1733)## Call-in toll number (US/Canada)

### Join by phone

1-650-479-3207

### Meeting Agenda Thursday, January 7, 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 [HCOVMF]).

#### 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 November 2020 Meeting Minutes**
5. **Presentation by Invited Guest(s):** Genese Muse, who participated in Howard County Library System's veteran writing and songwriting workshops and Major Terri Taylor, CAP, Howard Squadron, Deputy Commander for Cadets U.S. Air Force Auxiliary (gocivilairpatrol.com) who has documented over 900 veteran graves in Howard County.
6. **Old Business:**
  - a. **Update on Wreaths Across America, Toys for Tots, Veteran Holiday Gift distribution, Made With Love Initiative, Chamber Veterans Day Speaker Series, (Lisa Terry)**
  - b. **Update from the Commission's Subcommittee on Equity and Racial Justice (Jonathan Branch):** Subcommittee members: Mr. Branch (Chair), Mr. Avery, Mr. Blum, Mr. Gillette, Ms. Kesler, Mr. Lowell, Mr. Rivers, and Ms. Terry
  - c. **Update on Completion and October 22, 2020, dedication of the Lakefront "Millie Billie Park" next to Whole Foods (Bob Gillette)**
  - d. **Feedback on 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Veterans Day Parade and Lakefront Ceremony (John Spain; Bob Gillette),** feedback on FaceBook Live format and on Year of the Woman Lakefront Ceremony
  - e. **Update on December Meeting of the Veterans Support Group (Paul Rivers, Kelly Kesler, Lisa Terry)** \*status of virtual vs. in-person meetings and Fort Meade podcast to air on Jan 12 at <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/id1495826760>
  - f. **Feedback on NAMI-sponsored Veterans Mental Health Virtual Forum November 17, 2020 (Steve Bolen, Paul Rivers, John Way).** Fort Meade podcast to air on Jan 12 at <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/id1495826760>
  - g. **Feedback on December VAMHCS Meeting (Greg Jolissaint)**
  - h. **Update on Veterans Day Presentations in HoCo Schools (Reg Avery)**
  - i. **Update on MHFA Proposal to the FMA Foundation Board (John Way)**



- j. **Update on Howard County Web-Based Veterans Tribute (similar to Montgomery County) – Lisa Terry**  
[www.montgomerycountymd.gov/veteransday](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/veteransday)

## **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. **Regional Veteran Symposium in lieu of annual Veteran Resource Fair (Lisa)**
- b. **Howard County Joint Military Council (JMC) significant items (Ed Hall, John Spain)**
- c. **Legislative Affairs Update (Steve Bolen)**
- d. **Other Items of Interest (Greg, Lisa)**
- e. **Update on county’s solicitation for new commission members (Lisa)**
- f. **New business from Commission Members (Greg will facilitate)**
- g. **Comments or requests for other meeting attendees (Greg Jolissaint)**

## **9. Other Announcements or dates of importance (All)**

\*Flu Shots; COVID Vaccination

## **10. Next Commission Meeting Date(s)**

Thursday February 4, 2021; Thursday March 4, 2021; Thursday April 1, 2021

## **11. Adjournment**