



**THE CITY OF NEW YORK
BOROUGH OF THE BRONX
COMMUNITY BOARD 7**



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT EMMANUEL MARTINEZ, CHAIRPERSON ISCHIA BRAVO, DISTRICT MANAGER

VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Chair:	Chad Royer
Meeting Date:	Wednesday, November 25th, 2020
Meeting Time:	6:30 PM
Members (Check Those In Attendance)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chad Royer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hugo Gonzalez <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jean Hill <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeffery Hunter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Helene Redd <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adaline Walker-Santiago
Minutes done by:	Chad Royer

Minutes:

- I) Introductions
- II) Review of previous minutes (If applicable)
- III) Follow-up from previous month (If applicable)
 - a) Outreach Update
 - 1) The roundtable event will take place in January or February. The topics of discussion will be tenant support in housing and know your rights as family members of veterans. Invited speakers will serve as panelists who can provide insight, and questions will be introduced to the event ahead of time.
 - 2) Some recent statistics pertaining to the veteran’s population show how many veterans in New York City served in specific wars. Overall number of veterans exceed 138,000.
 - 3) 41,780 veterans served exclusively in the Vietnam Era while only 385 served in Vietnam Era and Korean War without serving in World War 2, and 12,133 served between Vietnam Era and Korean War only.
 - 4) 20,750 veterans served between Gulf War and Vietnam Era



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- 5) 16,492 veterans served in Gulf War from 8/90 to 8/01 without serving in Vietnam Era.
- 6) 20,739 veterans served in Gulf War from 9/01 and later without serving in the Vietnam Era.
- 7) 5,002 veterans served in the Gulf War 9/01 and later, and between 8/90 and 8/01 without serving in Vietnam Era.

IV) New Business

- a) Consumer Tips and Protections - Alberto Roldan, NYC Department of Consumer and Worker Protection
 - 1) Formerly called the Department of Consumer Affairs, the agency covers 3 areas: protect worker, protect consumers and assist licensed businesses
 - 2) There are 30 financial empowerment centers citywide, and they offer free professional, confidential one on one counseling to anyone who lives and/or works in New York City. There is no income status restrictions. They can address and assist with reduction of debt through debt collection, help with balancing a budget, go over the way credit works, address how to separate business from personal finances, and help individuals understand the best payment plan for student loans.
 - 3) Ready To Rent program helps applicants who apply for rentals through a lottery so that applicants can be in the best position to win the housing lottery.
 - 4) If a veteran is permanently disabled, that veteran can ask for the student loan to be discharged
 - 5) To get an appointment, call 311 and ask for free financial counseling, or go to <http://www.nyc.gov/talkmoney> Multiple languages are available.



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- 6) Regarding veterans and for-profit schools, veterans have access to G.I. bill and student loans. However, many for-profit schools are not as successful in graduation rates as public not-for-profit schools have been. For-profit schools tend to take more loans than needed for payment (like maxing out on loans), and they are supposed to disclose the cost without any loans and what each loan package costs at the end as it relates to interest and payments over time before a person agrees to any student loans.**
- V) Next meeting date – Date for January 2021 will be determined at a later time and there will be no meeting in December.**
- VI) Discussion on next agenda**
- VII) Adjournment**