Valerie S. Mason Chair

Will Brightbill District Manager



The City of New York Community Board 8 Manhattan Veterans Committee

Wednesday, April 30, 2025 - 6:30 PM
This meeting was conducted hybrid in person and via Zoom
Marymount Manhattan College, Regina Peruggi Room
221 East 71st Street (Between Third and Second Avenues)

Minutes

Board Members Present: Michele Birnbaum, John McClement, and David Menegon (Public Member).

Approximate Number of Public Attendees: 1

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM.

1. A presentation by Damia December of Veterans Rebuilding Life on veterans benefits available through the VA and other organizations.

Chairman John McClement welcomed all of those in attendance and explained that the purpose of the CB8 Veterans Committee is to provide a periodic forum for veterans in CB8 to learn of veterans benefits available to them through the VA and a variety of other organizations focused on their needs. He added that the Committee would plan to meet two or three times a year for discussions and to provide the veterans with the latest information regarding benefits available to them.

John then introduced the speaker for the evening, Damia December of Veterans Rebuilding Life. (Veterans Rebuilding Life is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting victims of war and humanitarian crises. It targets underserved needs and provides evidence-based solutions that have a proven record of success.)

The organization's assistance to veterans focuses on three areas:

- 1. Health: Mental and emotional health factors that play a key role in the transition from military to civilian life.
- 2. Security: Factors such as social life, education, and employment are addressed through community partnerships.
- 3. Purpose: Each veteran volunteers for a humanitarian mission with the option to care for a child or a veteran wounded by war.

Our speaker Damia December is a Program Director for Veterans Rebuilding Life. She addressed the meeting for approximately 45 minutes and described in detail the entire range of benefits available to veterans through the VA, Veterans Rebuilding Life, and other organizations. She focused in particular on the VA with regard to eligibility requirements and the very wide array of services it offers.

2. Old Business

No items of Old Business were discussed.

3. New Business

No items of New Business were discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 PM.

John McClement, Chair

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