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**The City of New York
Community Board 8 Manhattan
Veterans Committee**
*Tuesday, October 15, 2024 - 6:30 PM
Conducted remotely on Zoom*

Minutes

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

Approximate Number of Public Attendees: 0

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

- Discussion of the Mission Statement: Consistent with the Community Board's advisory and educational role, the Veterans' Affairs Committee will explore issues affecting the quality of life of the residents in the community. The Committee will work with private and nonprofit entities and government agencies on issues related to veterans' needs and issues, including education, employment, disability, healthcare, small business, housing, and benefits. One of the Committee's goals will be to ensure veterans are connected with the many resources available in New York City. Where appropriate, the Committee will issue recommendations to the relevant governmental agencies, elected officials, and organizations; will host informational forums on particular issues affecting veterans within the district of Community Board 8, and will refer matters for consideration by the full Community Board.**

The attendees decided that a review of the mission statement of the Veterans Committee was not necessary since everyone was familiar with its contents.

The attendees began a discussion of the best way to attract a significant number of veterans to subsequent meetings. Michele Birnbaum said that an initial welcoming meeting, preferably in-person but possibly by Zoom, should be planned. The Committee should plan significant mailings to veterans to ensure a good turnout.

The Committee briefly discussed the demography of veterans in New York City.

- 210,000 veterans in New York City.
- 37,900 in Manhattan
- 88% of veterans are employed
- Education:
 - 10.6%: Less than high school
 - 30.6%: High school graduates
 - 30.8%: Associates degree or some college
 - 27.9 %: Bachelors or more
- Median income: \$34,794 for women; \$36,582 for men

Age distribution:

- 18-34 -- 35%
- 35-54 -- 34.6%
- 55-64 -- 14%
- 65-74 -- 9%
- 75+ -- 7%

Conflict eras:

- Post 9/11: 11%

- Gulf War: 11%
- Vietnam: 29%
- Korea: 13%
- WWII: 11%

The attendees then discussed the following ideas and tasks:

- Contact the Bob Woodruff Foundation to discuss ways in which the Foundation can assist the Committee.
- Contact The Ramaz School and Trinity Church to see if either can provide a venue for a meeting.
- Contact elected officials to see if they can attend a meeting in March or April.
- Inform CB8M office by Thanksgiving of the date for the meeting.

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 7:12 PM.

John McClement, Chair