



**Agenda for Virtual Monthly Meeting
Thursday, February 3, 2022**

[Link to join meeting](#)

- 1. Roll Call of Commission Members to Establish a Quorum**
- 2. Acknowledgement of Howard County Government Officials in Attendance:**

Lisa Terry (Manager, Howard County Office of Veterans and Military Families)
- 3. Special Guest(s):**
- 4. Others in Attendance:**
- 5. Welcome by the Commission Chair; Reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America led by the Commission Chair**
- 6. Reminders of Virtual Meeting Etiquette – please try to stay muted, but please use chat function or raise hand**
- 7. Consideration of the January 2022 Meeting Minutes**
- 8. Guest Speakers:**
- 9. Opening Comments by Commission Chair.**

Thanks to our commissioners, friends, and family members who were able to attend the respectful burial of nine unclaimed Veterans on Friday, January 28 in Crownsville.

- 10. Old or Reoccurring Business**
 - a. **Veterans Peer Support Group Update** (Paul Rivers and John Way). One-page Information Paper was sent to all Commissioners. Hopefully everyone had the opportunity to share it with their networks.
 - b. **Howard County Veterans Foundation.** Bob Gillette, Wanda Riddle, Lisa Terry

- c. **New Commission Recorder needed.** Transition March – April. Start Date in May.
- d. **Commission Branded Polo Shirts.** Jerry and Lisa
- e. **Bailey’s Bundles.** Lisa
- f. **Mental Health First Aid Classes (Fort Meade Alliance collaboration).** John Way
- g. **Other Old Business?** Greg and Lisa

11. New Business

- a. **Commission Priorities** established during January 2022 Commission Meeting:
 - 1) Participate in the Clarksville July 4th Parade, the Howard County Veterans Day Parade and Lakefront Ceremony, and the annual Howard County Fair in West Friendship.
 - 2) Participate/Conduct Veterans Day presentations in coordination with the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) and participate in the HCPSS 5th grade Simulated Congressional Hearings.
 - 3) Continue to support the Veterans Peer Support Group; identify and support “resources” focused on military service members’ families and veterans’ families (including operation home front; mental health first aid; etc.).
 - 4) Facilitate and promote access to non-medical but therapeutic wellness and behavioral health alternatives; incorporate virtual wellness activities.
 - 5) Continue to support the installation of a veterans’ and families’ monument that will be erected in the Vivian C. “Millie” Bailey Park by the lakefront in Columbia.
 - 6) Continue to support Howard County VSOs (e.g., quarterly flag retirement ceremony; etc.)
 - 7) Support (a potentially re-formatted) Veterans’ Resource Fair. (Need to determine the frequency, time of year, and location.)
 - 8) Support the creation of a **Howard County Fallen Heroes Tribute Page. (The Commission will require a webmaster and volunteers to research Howard County service members who were killed in action. The Howard County Civil Air Patrol has a list of Veterans’ graves that could be a starting point for research.)**

[Montgomery County - Department of Health and Human Services - Veterans Affairs \(montgomerycountymd.gov\)](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov)

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/HHS-program/ADS/VETERANS/BlackHistoryMonth.html>

- b. **2022 Veterans Day Parade Planning Meetings** begin Tuesday, February 8 at 5 p.m. via Google Meet. Greg is the Primary Commission Rep; Jonathan also invited. 2d Alternate would be beneficial.
- c. [No Struggle No Success - Recidivism, Entrepreneurship](#) Naomi Ling, President of Student Partners for Veterans, has requested our interest in conducting talks about our military values/stories/messages to the youth of **No Struggle No Success, Inc.** This organization serves youth who are transitioning back into the community due to juvenile offenses or other major life issues, and they would be honored to connect with Veterans for inspiration and hope. The presentation would likely be a virtual Zoom meeting.
- d. **Howard County Schools Simulated Congressional Hearings.** Reg
- e. **Dignified Burial Ceremony for Unclaimed Veterans.** Garrison Forest Veterans Cemetery, Owings Mills. **February 4** at 1:00 p.m (7 veterans). Rain or Shine
- f. **Flag Retirement Ceremony February 5.** VFW Post 7472 Hall in Ellicott City. Ceremony begins at 11 a.m. near the Pavilion.
- g. **February 7. [Veteran Support Group](#), 6 to 7:30 p.m. (First Monday of the month).** A free, drop in, peer-led support group for Veterans living with mental illness. Joining a Support Group can help you to feel better in any number of ways, such as:
 - Knowing that others are going through something similar
 - Learning tips on how to handle day-to-day challenges
 - Meeting new friends or connecting to others who understand you
 - Learning how to talk about things that bother you or how to ask for help
- h. **Expired Commissioner terms** (Jolissaint, Lowell, Nafrettifi) – Lisa and Greg
 - 1) January 4, 2022, Council Legislative Session. Resolution was read into the record.
 - 2) January 18, 2022, Council Public Hearing. Reappointments discussed.
 - 3) February 7, 2022, County Council Legislative Session. Council will take final action on the resolutions.
- i. **New Commissioner Nominee needed.** Lisa
- j. **Howard County Joint Military Council (JMC)** significant items (Ed Hall or John Spain)
- k. **New Business from Commissioners.** Greg
- l. **Additional Dates and Items of Significance:**

- 1) **National Salute to Veteran Patients** -- recognized during the **week of February 14** and pays tribute to the ~100K patients a day that receive medical treatment in VA medical facilities around the world (as well as the Veteran patients who receive their care in the VA's Community Care Program network).
- 2) **Brain Injury Awareness Month**, recognized each **March**, provides an important opportunity to bring attention to the prevention of traumatic brain injury (TBI) and to promote strategies to improve the quality of life for persons living with TBI as well as their families (to include our MILVET patients suffering from TBIs incurred during their military service).
- 3) **Podcast with veteran peer facilitator Topaz Navarro**
https://open.spotify.com/episode/7kCE5N0j5tk14r0u0zRCF6?fbclid=IwAR26pXfuQtSwjgiilMWS8g1r9FeoKiPccaZRK91mD6u7R_fYbfGSTOXDtjk
- 4) **February 15. Joint County Veterans Commission/Group Meeting**, 9-11am. Join with Google Meet: <meet.google.com/gkw-oekf-ixn>
- 5) **March 8 - Howard County Veteran Collaborative**, 9:30am-11am

12. Next Commission Meeting Dates:

March 3, 2022 (Guest Speaker Chris Anthony from TeamWorx Security).

April 7, 2022