



**Agenda Regular Meeting of the Veterans
Advisory Board
June 16, 2026 at 5:30 PM
Monica Roybal Center
737 Agua Fria Street, Santa Fe**

Procedures for Veterans Advisory Board Meeting

Join on Zoom: [https://santafenm-
gov.zoom.us/j/84030088562?pwd=ajZRV2pEMjM0SUlucmJCNk40U3FPQT09](https://santafenm.gov.zoom.us/j/84030088562?pwd=ajZRV2pEMjM0SUlucmJCNk40U3FPQT09)

Meeting ID: 840 3008 8562

Passcode: 586934

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Minutes
 - a. VOTE: To approve the Minutes for May 19, 2026
5. Public Comment
6. New Business
 - a. DISCUSSION: Current Veterans Advisory Board Action List (Gary Donato, Chair)
 - b. DISCUSSION: Update on Santa Fe Community College Memorandum Of Understanding (Daniel and I met with Lia and Sierra on 6/8 at 1330, so we'll have a report for the board) (Gary Donato, Chair)
 - c. DISCUSSION: Any homelessness updates? (Gary Donato, Chair)
 - d. DISCUSSION: Thoughts on the education contest? If so, do we need to visit a couple of schools? (Gary Donato, Chair)
7. Old Business
8. Presentations
9. Matters from the Committee
 - a. REMINDER: 4th of July celebration will be held at Franklin Miles Park -

Legion Post 12 will conduct flag folding exercise.

10. Matters from Staff

- a. ON JUNE 10, 2026 GOVERNING BODY MEETING
GARY DONATO - APPOINTMENT AS CHAIR - TERM ENDING 05/2028
ARI JONTRY - APPOINTMENT - TERM ENDING 05/2028

11. Next Meeting:

- a. TUESDAY - JUNE 16, 2026
5:30 pm TO 7:30 pm
at 737 AGUA FRIA STREET / SANTA FE, NM
and VIA ZOOM

12. Adjourn

Closed captions are provided for this meeting. Persons with disabilities in need of additional accommodations, contact the City Clerk's office at 505-955-6521, five (5) working days prior to meeting date.

**Regular Meeting of the Veterans Advisory Board
May 19, 2026 at 5:30 PM
Monica Roybal Center
737 Agua Fria Street, Santa Fe
MINUTES**

1. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Veterans Advisory Board was called to order by Gary Donato at 5:35 PM, on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, at 737 Agua Fria Street, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

2. Roll Call

MEMBERS PRESENT

Gary Donato
Stephen Kapin
James Colonel Williams
Larry Hinkle
Steven Breniger
Elizabeth "Liz" Rickert

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Anna Vigil

OTHER PARTICIPANTS ATTENDING

Daniel Lopez, Jr., Equity and ADA Manager
Ari Jonty

3. Approval of Agenda

MOTION A motion was made by Breniger, seconded by Rickert, to Approve.

VOTE The motion Passed on a voice vote.

4. Approval of Minutes

MOTION A motion was made by Breniger, seconded by Rickert, to Approve.

VOTE The motion Passed on a voice vote.

a. VOTE to Approve the Minutes of 04/21/2026

MOTION A motion was made by Breniger, seconded by Rickert, to Approve.

VOTE The motion Passed on a voice vote.

5. Public Comment

None

6. New Business

- a. Discussion and Possible Action: Veteran Parade and Veterans Day updates to include
 - a. Location location location
 - b. Parade committee with members of the community
 - c. Ideas for the Keynote Speaker
 - d. Invitation to the Governor cc DVS Secretary
 - e. Enter the date/time on the Mayor's calendar

NO ACTION TAKEN

- b. Discussion :
 - 1. For all the members - keep track of what you're doing tied to the Strategic Plan for the 2nd Quarterly Report

NO ACTION TAKEN

- c. Discussion:
 - 1. Comments on the financial report from Veteran Alliance

NO ACTION TAKEN

- d. Announcements and Information Only:
 - 1. New art in City Hall - 17 prints of Native Code Talkers
 - 2. Fourth of July celebration at Franklin Miles Park
 - 3. Knights of Columbus should be putting up banners near Memorial Day
 - 4. Memorial Day Ceremony at the National Cemetery - lower pavilion 10am.

NO ACTION TAKEN

- 7. Old Business
- 8. Presentations
- 9. Matters from the Committee
- 10. Matters from Staff
- 11. Next Meeting:
 - a. Wednesday, June 16, 2026

6:15 PM

- 12. Adjourn

Attested To By

CHAIRPERSON

Respectfully Submitted by:

LIAISON

VAB ACTION ITEMS IN PIPELINE

1. MOU with SFCC submitted for signatures (time sensitive 6/15)
Update: sent forward for signatures;
2. Appointment letters (Gary & Ari) submitted 3X for approval
Update: resubmitted 5/8 from original submission back in February
3. Advertisements by City for new members (existing members should recruit)
Update: submitted to clerk by VAB Staff on 5/8
4. Brochure update submitted to Daniel for incorporation and printing for new batch of brochures.
Update: Daniel (VAB Staff) has updates from Veteran Alliance and VAB
5. Receipt of First quarter report and the strategic plan to Mayor for comment.
Update: Submitted to Mayor 4/8, for review and if had comments
6. Legion Post 12 location – legality and viability. Mayor was going to check with legal and his exec team. (Pending since 1/26)
Update: Brought up 1/26 and again 4/8 meetings - ?????
7. Update meeting with Lea Salaverry and Sierra Trujillo regarding Veteran Alliance contract >1 year (budget increase not on 2026/2027 budget).
Update: Daniel (VAB Staff) setting up meeting for update
8. City Medallion requested for the Plaque on Veteran Art Wall (Plaque in progress).
Update: Mayor provided Gary City challenge coin. Plaque in Progress.
9. Submittal of invitation to Governor for Veterans Day with cc to Cabinet Secretary (DVS). Also place on Mayor’s calendar (11/11 at 1100).
Update: Action item for Daniel (VAB Staff) – submit ASAP. On Mayor’s calendar. Gary sent invite via email as well as met Gov at Memorial Day.

10. Securing location for Veteran's Day ceremony and Parade Route.

Update: as of 5/13, Ceremony site is St. Francis Auditorium at the NM Art Museum. Hopefully next year back in Convention Center. Gary met with DVS Cabinet Secretary regarding:

- a. NG support and attendance.
- b. Chaplain from the Guard for Ceremony
- c. Need keynote – possibly General Aguilar???
- d. Securing the NM Military Museum as kick-off for parade;
coffee/pastries (VAB will provide)
- e. Need to check to secure access for parking and launch of parade in
back parking lot.
- f. Site secured for Ceremony – now work on band/etc; evening before
staging of flags/tables (in foyer), and as get closer water for attendees.