

DC MAYOR'S ADVISORY BOARD ON VETERANS AFFAIRS



MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 3, 2020

441 4th Street NW

Conf Room #1117

Washington DC 20003

6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

CALL IN INFORMATION

Dial in: 712-451-0862

Passcode: 821260

Call to Order at 6:35pm

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Advisory Board Members Roll Call

- 16 voting member present. Quorum Met.

IV. Approval of minutes (February 2020)

-Postponed till April 2020.

V. Special Guests

- Kate Watson of YourNexStage Inc.

VI. Director's Report

- MOVA One Sheet review of services, programs and outreach efforts.

VII. Old Business (Chairman)

A) Board Vacancies

- MABVA has three vacancies. Please send nominations to: elliott.tommingo@dc.gov

Nominee must be a veteran living within the District of Columbia.

-Board requesting information from MOTA about reducing the Boards' voting member number.
Director Tommingo taking for action.

VIII. New Business (Chairman)

A) May 5, 2020 Advisory Board Meeting Off Site--The Perry Belmont House

IX. Committee Reports

-Govt Affairs (Saif Khan): Meeting of subcommittee in March.

-Homestead Exemption Act Fiscal Impact Report will be reviewed. Goal is to fund the Act fully in 2021. Initial impact was \$32M it should be closer to \$8M. ALL of DC's disabled veterans were initially counted, not just the 100% disabled. (see below**).

-Committee will take a look at DC's Disabled Veteran Leave status/policies.

-Dominic Ju: CM Todd's bill for a DOES veteran study will be addressed this year (summer).

-Small Business (Joe Wynn): Veteran Small Business Forum's should resume soon.

- Victor Holt- concern on veteran preference being sidelined in future VA and Federal contracting.

X. Public Comment (Maximum 2 minute per person)

XI. Adjournment at 8:04pm

****Disabled Veterans Homestead Exemption Act of 2017** (Passed and Signed into Law on April 11, 2019)
DC Code L22-0283 - effective from Apr 11, 2019

Summary- This law exempts veterans classified as having a total permanent disability or that are paid at a **100% disability rating** level, from a portion of the property taxes assessed on his or her primary residence. The Mayor shall **deduct \$500,000** from the assessed value of real property, owned by a qualifying veteran.

Status- Not funded in the FY20 Discretionary Budget, not an applicable tax program till funded.

MABVA Board Members Data Review:

The fiscal impact statement for the Disabled Vets Homestead Exemption Act estimates that the District has 4,300 100% Permanent & Totally Disabled (100% P&T) homeowners. At cost of \$1,700.00 per homeowner, the Law's estimated fiscal impact is \$7.5m per/year.

DoD Actuaries and VA Data that the correct number of 100% P&T homeowners in DC is between 500 to 1,000 (at the high end).

According to the [VA Annual Benefits Data](#), there are 5,514 DC veterans receiving some form of disability compensation (this includes those at 10%, 20%, etc.) – the % of 100% P&T is probably more in the ballpark of 10% of total (i.e., **551 Veterans**). Second, the attachment tell us that there are only 548 Veterans in the Loan Guaranty (VA loan) program. **It is extremely unlikely that 4,300 100% P&T Disabled Veterans would be homeowners when only 548 Veterans are using the VA Loan in the District of Columbia.**

BOTTOM LINE: the \$7.5 million per year - \$32M four year fiscal impact statement for B22-0121 is incorrect.

A realistic estimate, at the high end, is \$1.7m per year. This figure is based on 1,000 100% disabled veteran homeowners in the District – who would benefit from the property tax break.

Instead of \$32M over four years the actual cost is around \$8M (FY20 \$1.7M, FY21 \$1.9M, FY22 \$2.1M, FY23 \$2.3M – using the OCFO inflation standard)