

## **Veterans Subcommittee Meeting Minutes**

The Webex virtual meeting of the Orange County Disability Advisory Board (DAB) was called to order at 4:28 p.m. Monday, May 10, 2021. Veterans Subcommittee Chairperson Joe Waczewski opened with roll call. In attendance were, Disability Advisory Board Chair, Sandra Algarin and DAB board members Karolyn Campbell and Jen Vargas. Also present were Orange County Citizen Resource and Outreach Division's, ADA Program Manager, Nicola Norton and Veteran Services Program Manager, Tommie Maldonado. A quorum was not established.

### **Purpose Overview**

Waczewski stated the purpose of the sub-committee; "to discuss issues related to veterans with disabilities in the community, report findings and make recommendations to the Disability Advisory Board."

### **Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

### **Presentation – VA News and Updates**

Tommie Maldonado from Veterans Services gave an update on changes within the Public VA laws from January 2021. Some of the updates and changes are: 1) The revision of definition of "Vietnam Era"; 2) Modernization of service-disabled veterans insurance to have a Whole Life Insurance up to 81 years old and a max of \$40 with a 2 year wait period; 3) Eligibility for dependents and compensation for surviving spouses who remarry after 55; 4) Members exposed to "Agent Orange" now has three added presumptive conditions, Parkinson, Bladder Cancer and Hypothyroidism; 5) The VA hospital will give additional money to pay for other services outside of their pension and VA will now pay for transportation to the State VA cemetery.

Maldonado will send the hyperlink to Norton to share with DAB members that lists updated changes discussed above.

### **Actions to Vote in or Discuss**

- A. Minutes from the September 14, November 9, 2020 and March 8, 2021 Veterans Subcommittee meeting were tabled for next meeting since there was no quorum.

### **Old Business**

No old business.

### **New business**

No new business.

**Meeting Adjournment**

Vargas motioned to adjourn the meeting with a second by Campbell. The meeting was adjourned at 5:06 p.m. The next Disability Advisory Board Veterans Ad-hoc Subcommittee meeting will be held on Monday, September 13, 2021 from 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. at 2100 E. Michigan Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor ABC Conference Room and if any changes, notification will be given. Members of the public can request information by emailing [Nicola.norton@ocfl.net](mailto:Nicola.norton@ocfl.net) .