

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY FINAL OFFICIAL MINUTES Miami-Dade Military Affairs Board

Fire Fighters Memorial Building Corp. 8000 NW 21 Street
Miami, FL 33122

August 7, 2013 As Advertised

Harvey Ruvin, Clerk Board of County Commissioners

Christopher Agrippa, Division Chief Clerk of the Board Division

Alan Eisenberg, Commission Reporter (305) 375-2510



CLERK'S SUMMARY OF MEETING AND OFFICIAL MINUTES MILITARY AFFAIRS BOARD August 7, 2013

The Military Affairs Board (MAB) convened in a meeting on August 7, 2013 at 6:12 p.m. at the Fire Fighters Memorial Building Corp., 8000 NW 21 Street, Miami, FL 33122.

The following voting Board members were present: Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Chairman; Mario Alvarez; Anthony Atwood; David Blake; Lt. Col. Antonio Colmenares; Town of Miami Lakes Councilman Timothy Daubert; Thomas Davis; Diana Gonzalez; Manuel Gonzalez; Joseph Martory; and Christopher Miller;

The following voting Board member arrived late: Jorge Sibila.

The following voting Board members were absent: Mark Blumstein; Raydel Cornelio; Kevin Humes; Charles Johnson; Don Slesnick II; Keith Whitbeck.

The following non-voting Board members were present: Ms. Glorianne Amor for U.S. Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart; Major Brooke Cortez, United States Air Force; GY Sergeant Eddy Fonseca, Jr.; and Colonel Morris Hatcher.

The following non-voting Board members were absent: Ed Haynes for "U.S. Congresswoman Frederica Wilson"; Captain Mark Jackson; Chief Mater Sergeant Cameron Kirksey; Paul Russo; City of Doral Vice Mayor Sandra Ruiz; and Joanna Sandstrom,

The following staff members were present: Gustavo Cruz, MAB Director; Assistant County Attorney Miguel Gonzalez; Gloria Garces, Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz' Office; and Deputy Clerk Alan Eisenberg.

The following guests were also present: Ruben Avila (phonetic), David Conley, Larry Rubino and Hugh Quinn, American Red Cross; Thomas Hastings; and Eduardo Lombard.

1. Welcome

Chairman Diaz welcomed Board members and guests to tonight's (8/7) Military Affairs Board (MAB) meeting.

2. Moment of Silence / Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Diaz asked Ms. Gloria Garces to lead the Military Affairs Board (MAB) in a moment of prayer; this was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Joseph Martory.

3. Board Member Roundtable

Chairman Diaz asked Military Affairs Board (MAB) members to introduce themselves and to share pertinent information about their organizations and current programs of interest.

Mr. Joseph Martory commented that he would be attending the Vietnam Veterans of America convention in Jacksonville, Florida from August 14 - 18, 2013. He offered to represent the MAB at that meeting.

Mr. Anthony Atwood noted that the South Florida Military Museum served 5,113 people at its recent food drive.

Ms. Diana Gonzalez said the Miami-Dade Defense Alliance (MDDA) would be requesting grant funding for the MAB's mentor program and community outreach program. She noted the MDDA already allocated funding for the Veterans Day Parade and the Armed Forces Services Center at Miami International Airport. Ms. Gonzalez commented that MDDA was also in the process of obtaining grant funds for a Washington, DC fly-in to advocate on military issues with the Congressional Delegation.

Mr. David Conley introduced Mr. Hugh Quinn, the American Red Cross' Interim CEO.

Colonel Morris Hatcher expressed his appreciation on behalf of the United States Southern Command (SOUTHCOM) and the United States Army for the tickets they received at last month's meeting to attend the Premier Fighting Event at the Magic City Casino.

4. Old Business

a. Veteran's Day Parade update

Chairman Diaz acknowledged Mr. Gustavo Cruz and Ms. Gloria Garces for working tirelessly on the Veteran's Day Parade, noting the event was to welcome back Vietnam and Bay of Pigs Veterans to Miami-Dade County.

i. Miami-Dade Resolution – Legislative File No. 131447

Chairman Diaz pointed out that a resolution commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War was unanimously approved by the Board of County Commissioners on July 16, 2013. He noted the resolution was co-sponsored by Commissioners Esteban L. Bovo, Jr. and Sally A. Heyman. Chairman Diaz said the County allocated \$50,000 along with other in-kind services, including: police, fire and goodwill ambassadors. He noted both Mayor Carlos Gimenez and City of Miami Mayor Tomas Regalado were also supportive.

ii. Parade Line-up

Mr. Gustavo Cruz distributed a tentative parade line-up to MAB members noting this was a preliminary proposal and it could be modified. He explained that the parade would begin with the American Legion Riders followed by the MAB members and elected officials. Mr. Cruz noted that Miami-Dade County Public School Superintendent Alberto Carvalho committed four marching bands. He commented that there would be opportunities for corporations to sponsor parade floats. Mr. Cruz said that for security purposes, the last unit in the line-up would be a military asset.

Chairman Diaz commented that Mr. Gus Machado was supportive and was working to obtain Ford Motor Company sponsorship. He noted that another major corporate sponsor was pending and that additional details should be available by the next MAB meeting.

Ms. Diana Gonzalez inquired about specific sponsorship levels and asked about the cost to sponsor a parade float.

Mr. Cruz responded that specific sponsorship parameters would be discussed.

Chairman Diaz reiterated that the proposed line-up was to be used as a preliminary parade structure and could be modified.

Mr. Thomas Davis pointed out that an honor guard or a joint honor guard traditionally led a parade. He also pointed out that the military was not currently conducting flyovers because of the federal government sequester; however, he encouraged the MAB to request a flyover in the event the policy changed before the parade. He suggested the Miami-Dade Police Department or the Wings Over Miami Air Museum be considered as alternative options.

Mr. Mario Alvarez inquired whether the honor guard, MAB members and elected officials would be walking or riding the parade route, followed by Colonel Morris Hatcher's inquiry about the route's distance.

Mr. Cruz responded that the parade would begin at the Miami-Dade County Courthouse and will continue to Bayfront Park.

Chairman Diaz noted that sponsors such as Ford Motor Company could provide vehicles for elderly and handicapped veterans. He said there were other military assets available in this community that could be obtained to assist those who could not walk.

Mr. Anthony Atwood commented that the American Riders would be riding their motorcycles to Miami from various locations throughout the State. He said that placing them first in the parade line-up was an incentive for them to come in larger numbers. Mr. Atwood requested that event flyers be produced to highlight their participation.

Chairman Diaz commented that the parade was not limited to Miami-Dade County participation. He noted that there were many organizations and individuals beginning to indicate they wanted to be included. Chairman Diaz said he had a meeting scheduled with the Bay of Pigs veteran organization representatives.

Mr. Davis noted he made contact with Ms. Debra Zimmerman, District Chief of Staff for Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen regarding coordinating efforts with the Bay of Pigs veterans.

Chairman Diaz pointed out that he asked Mr. Dexter Lehtinen, Mr. Bob Levy and Mr. Larry Hawkins to assist in fundraising efforts. He said the day of the parade was changed from Saturday, November 9, 2013 to Friday, November 8, 2013 due to various logistical reasons. Chairman Diaz noted the cost of police, fire and other clean-up services would be approximately \$300,000. He commented that the City of Miami and the County were working together on the parade.

Chairman Diaz explained that the parade would begin at around noon and would proceed to the Bayfront Park Amphitheater where there would be entertainment and other presentations. He pointed out that a stage would be erected in the park in the event that the amphitheater was too small to accommodate the projected audience. Chairman Diaz noted Mr. David Saltz, a talent scout, was assisting him with finding musical entertainment.

Chairman Diaz commented that Gloria Estefan would be on-tour in Europe at that time; that she expressed her appreciation to the MAB for honoring her father who was both a Vietnam and Bay of Pig veteran; that he died due to exposure to Agent Orange; and that she would prepare a video to be shown at the event since she could not participate.

Mr. Joseph Martory noted he was a member of the Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) Chapter 620 and requested that this organization was placed as the first veterans' organization in the parade line-up. He said he would inform the VVA about the parade at their upcoming convention.

Chairman Diaz responded that parade information would be provided to Mr. Martory to distribute as well as to all MAB members.

Chairman Diaz noted the American Red Cross would be a significant parade participant; noting it would be nice if they could provide a vintage ambulance in the line-up.

Mr. Cruz asked Major Brooke Cortez, GY Sergeant Eddy Fonseca, Jr., and Colonel Morris Hatcher to determine whether they had any mobile assets that could be used in the parade. He noted he would also ask the United States Coast Guard.

Major Cortez stated the Homestead Air Force Base was under very strict guidance from the United States Office of Secretary of Defense (OSD), Public Affairs, that only local events were to receive support and that she would obtain a determination whether they would be allowed to drive to the event and whether any financial changes were anticipated in the upcoming fiscal year.

Colonel Hatcher responded that the United States Southern Command (SOUTHCOM) did not have any military assets and suggested reaching out to local reserve units.

Chairman Diaz pointed out that the public enjoyed seeing soldiers marching and military vehicles in parades, using the Three Kings Day parade as an example. He said the more military assets the better and he would communicate with federal representatives in Washington, D.C. as well as with local Congressional representatives and Senators. Chairman Diaz noted that he would ask Mr. Emilio Gonzalez, Miami-Dade Aviation Department Director to contact his military connections.

Colonel Hatcher reiterated that the OSD guidance was very strict and that local National Guard reserve units be contacted to leverage assets. He noted he would do whatever possible to assist within the federal government constraints.

Mr. Christopher Miller noted that an estimation of the amount of military assets needed was important to the planning process.

Chairman Diaz responded that there were no constraints currently being placed on the number of participants. He noted he believed that the National Guard would have fewer restrictions on the use of assets because of their affiliation with Governor Rick Scott.

Mr. Miller noted he believed reservists would be willing to participate; however, he was not aware of the process relating to their payments.

Chairman Diaz clarified that assets included anyone currently serving or that previously served. He said he was committed to proceeding with the parade despite any limitations or external constraints.

Mr. Alvarez noted reserve unit commanders would ask for volunteers to participate in other outside activities in lieu of their regular drill assignment. He said that he would communicate with unit commanders in the Perrine area.

Ms. Diana Gonzalez commented that she would be attending tomorrow's (8/08) Chamber South Military Affairs Committee meeting where she would promote the parade and that she would also communicate with representatives of the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) and the US Army Reserve Martinez US Army Reserve Center about their available assets.

Colonel Hatcher suggested that MAB members provide input and recommendations regarding military assets and marching units at next month's meeting.

Chairman Diaz noted there were three levels of military assets that could participate in the parade: 1) active or reserve military members, 2) veterans, and 3) ROTC.

Colonel Hatcher thanked Chairman Diaz for this clarification because he was interpreting military assets as equipment. He noted members of the JROTC would be appropriate for marching units.

Chairman Diaz commented that the November 8, 2013 parade date was rapidly approaching and that the MAB needed to proceed as expeditiously as possible. He noted that MAB members were not being assigned specific tasks but to provide whatever assistance they deemed appropriate.

iii. Acceptance of the 13th Army Band

Mr. Gustavo Cruz noted that the National Guard's 13th Army Band was originally scheduled to be out of town the day of the parade; however, they changed plans and confirmed their participation.

iv. Talent Update

Ms. Gloria Garces pointed out that Toby Keith would cost \$500,000 and travelled with 26 people; that Trace Adkins would cost \$150,000 and travelled with 8 people and was not available; and that Wyonna Judd would cost \$50,000 and travelled with 8 people and also was not available. She asked MAB members for their suggestions of other entertainers to contact.

Mr. Anthony Atwood recommended Gary Sinise and the Lt. Dan Band.

Chairman Diaz noted that Mr. David Saltz was looking to find other talent from the era of the Vietnam War; hopefully at a lower cost and with less union restrictions.

v. Sponsorship

Mr. Gustavo Cruz noted that corporate sponsors were needed to help defray the costs associated with the Veteran's Day Parade. He said that talent advertising agencies (headhunters) would assist the MAB solicit corporate sponsors; however, these agencies charged a 15 percent commission fee on the amount of the donation.

Assistant County Attorney Miguel Gonzalez commented that MAB could deposit gift funds into the trust fund; however, the MAB would need to enter into a contractual agreement to pay the 15 percent commission fee. He noted an implementing order authorizing the MAB to enter into contractual agreements that would require Board of County Commissioners (BCC) approval before proceeding.

Assistant County Attorney Gonzalez noted that the headhunter fee could either be subtracted from the donation before being deposited into the trust fund or the donation could be deposited into the trust fund and the headhunter paid from another source. He proceeded to explain that the donor would not receive the full taxable value of their charitable donation when the headhunter fee was deducted from the donation before being deposited and that this would need to be disclosed to the donor.

Chairman Diaz noted commission fees were only paid on sponsors that were acquired through the talent advertising agencies and that any direct contributions or sponsors obtained through MAB members would not be subject to the fee. He said he would introduce the appropriate BCC legislation, if necessary.

Ms. Garces noted sponsor packages would be completed once the details of the concert were finalized.

vi. Veteran Organizations willing to participate

Mr. Gustavo Cruz asked MAB members to provide him with contact information for veterans' organizations so he could contact them about the parade and solicit their support.

Mr. Joseph Martory pointed out that many veterans belonged to more than one local organization. He noted he would provide Mr. Cruz with contact information on the following local organizations: Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) Chapter 620, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 10212, American Legion Post 346, and the Cuban American Veterans Organization.

Mr. Cruz noted that Vietnam Veterans and Bay of Pigs Veterans would be interviewed by the Military Channel and the History Channel to tell their story before it was forgotten.

b. Miami-Dade County Veteran Database

Mr. Cruz noted that an employee database was created to facilitate communication with veterans working for the County. He said the database would allow him to provide veterans with Veterans Administration updates, benefits packages and other pertinent information. Mr. Cruz commented that the request for veterans' information appeared on homepage of the MAB's website. He noted another database would be created for veterans from the community at-large.

5. New Business

a. Resignation of Raydel Cornelio (District 11)

Chairman Diaz informed MAB members that Dr. Raydel Cornelio submitted his resignation from this Board for personal reasons. He noted that Dr. Cornelio would receive a certificate of appreciation for his service to the MAB.

b. Appointment of Eduardo Lombard (District 11)

Chairman Diaz welcomed Mr. Eduardo Lombard to the MAB, noting he was Commissioner Juan Zapata's appointment. He explained that this appointment was not official until it was approved by the Board of County Commissioners.

Mr. Lombard commented that he was asked by Mr. Gustavo Cruz to serve on the MAB. He noted he was a Vietnam veteran; the Past Commandant of the District 10 Marine Corps League; and a 20 year volunteer at the Miami-Dade Police Department.

Assistant County Attorney Miguel Gonzalez confirmed that the MAB could accept Mr. Lombard's approval either before or after the Board of County Commissioners action.

It was moved by Mr. Timothy Daubert that Mr. Eduardo Lombard be accepted as the District 11 appointee to the MAB subject to Board of County Commission approval. This motion was seconded by Mr. Anthony Atwood, and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 11-0.

c. Resignation of Antonio Colmenares

Chairman Diaz noted that Lt. Col. Antonio Colmenares was no longer affiliated with the American Red Cross and submitted his resignation to the MAB. He presented a certificate of appreciation to Lt. Col. Colmenares and wished him well in his new position as District Director for the Florida Veterans Foundation and Director for the City of Miami's Veterans Services Office.

d. Appointment of David Conley

Chairman Diaz commented that Mr. David Conley was the new American Red Cross representative to the MAB and welcomed him to the Board.

Assistant County Attorney Miguel Gonzalez noted that this was an internal appointment which did not require the MAB to take a vote.

e. Resignation of CMSGT Cameron Kirksey

Chairman Diaz noted that Chief Master Sergeant Cameron Kirksey was no longer the United Air Force Base's representative to the MAB.

Major Brooke Cortez commented that Chief Master Sergeant Kirksey was now stationed at Robins Air Force Base.

f. Appointment of Major Brooke Cortez

Chairman Diaz welcomed Major Brooke Cortez as the new Untied States Air Force Base representative to the MAB.

6. Bylaws meeting with the County Attorney's Office

Mr. Gustavo Cruz noted he would meet with Assistant County Attorney Miguel Gonzalez to begin the process of creating MAB bylaws. He said MAB members would have an opportunity to review this document before its approval.

7. D-Day 70th Anniversary, June 6, 2014

Mr. Gustavo Cruz commented that next year was D-Day's 70th Anniversary. He noted the MAB would begin preliminary discussions to celebrate this historic event following the Veteran's Day Parade.

Mr. Anthony Atwood noted discussions with Senator Javier Souto and Senator Rene Garcia on the 70th Anniversary. He shared an Eisenhower jacket from a Hialeah GI who landed on D-Day which was recently donated to the South Florida Military Museum with MAB members. Mr. Atwood also shared the GI's war record, noting that it was not the traditional DD214 since the Department of Defense did not exist at that time. He commented that "Dade County" was typed incorrectly as "Dayed County" on that record. Mr. Atwood said he served in France and his father landed at Utah Beach in Normandy on D-Day and offered to assist with this event.

Chairman Diaz acknowledged Mr. Atwood for his efforts, noting that people like him helped to keep history alive.

8. New Miami-Dade Military Affairs Internet Home Page

Mr. Gustavo Cruz noted a new MAB webpage was being created with the assistance of the County's Internal Services Department. He said the webpage would include more pertinent information and it would be introduced next week.

Chairman Diaz asked MAB members to provide website ideas and suggestions to Mr. Cruz. He also asked Mr. Cruz to ensure that the website included information on dates and events of significance to veterans.

9. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Mr. Joseph Martory that the July 10, 2013 Military Affairs Board meeting minutes be approved. This motion was seconded by Ms. Diana Gonzalez and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 12-0.

10. Next Meeting date

Chairman Diaz noted the next MAB meeting was scheduled on Wednesday, September 4, 2013.

11. Other Business

Chairman Diaz expressed his appreciation to MAB members for their participation at Board meetings and their work on behalf of this Board.

Chairman Diaz commented that non-participating MAB members would be asked to resign from this Board as discussed in previous meetings. He said he would ask the appointing commissioner to consider making a new appointment to this Board, in accordance with the Sunshine Law requirements.

Chairman Diaz also commented that he would introduce a resolution before the Board of County Commissioners requesting that the Chamber South and the Greater Homestead/Florida City Chamber of Commerce be added to the MAB.

Chairman Diaz said the United States Attorney from the Southern District notified the MAB that they could not participate on the MAB or on any board in accordance with a United States Department of Justice mandate.

12. Announcements

Mr. Timothy Daubert commented that he would not be able to attend next month's meeting. He expressed his frustration with the MAB, noting he was not aware of this Board's accomplishments for veterans. Mr. Daubert noted a marine living in the Town of Miami Lakes committed suicide and he did not know what to do for that individual or where to go for assistance. He pointed out that a comprehensive list of people to call for various needs and concerns faced by local veterans was needed on the MAB website.

Chairman Diaz commented that the MAB was in its infancy; experiencing changes and unexpected situations. He noted a situation he was aware of where a military hero was being transported in a casket to Miami without anyone's knowledge and did not receive

the respect he deserved. Chairman Diaz expressed that Mr. Daubert's concerns were legitimate and that the MAB's mission was to be all things military.

Chairman Diaz pointed out that the MAB was not replicating the mission of any organization represented on this Board; however, he noted that each organization should be included on the Board's website. He noted that the MAB's committees needed to become more active with the affairs of this Board. Chairman Diaz said the MAB was composed of organizations and/or individuals because of their military background, services or other related connections.

Mr. Daubert noted that honoring veterans in the Veteran's Day Parade was a good idea but wondered how it helped veterans in need. He said that this situation with the marine dying alone was an eye opener.

Chairman Diaz responded that he valued Mr. Daubert's honesty, feelings and frustration and appreciated his bringing his concern to the MAB. He pointed out that organizations needed a signature event and the Veteran's Day Parade was to be the MAB's signature event. Chairman Diaz said the parade was the impetus that would provide the MAB with future funding necessary to support the board's activities in this community. He commented that the MAB had come a long way; that it was a unique organization that's make-up did not exist anywhere else; and that it was being evaluated by the federal government to be implemented elsewhere.

Mr. Eduardo Lombard provided a personal insight and an offer of hope to Mr. Daubert from a psychologist perspective. Through a personal story, Mr. Lombard proceeded to explain that sometimes you do not have the needed answers, but you have the people that you can trust and can rely on for help.

Mr. Joseph Martory commented that he was a former State of Florida Commissioner of Veterans Affairs and a current member of the National Cemetery Administration (NCA). He provided a NCA video to Mr. Daubert and one to Mr. Cruz to be used in the MAB office. Mr. Martory also offered his business card which included pertinent information that was useful in the event of a veteran's death. He pointed out that he could also request the assistance of the Under Secretary in Washington D.C.

Mr. Daubert acknowledged the reserve unit for providing an honor guard at the funeral.

Chairman Diaz noted his belief that MAB members were instrumental to the effectiveness of this Board. He said every effort would be made to make improvements to the Board's website. Chairman Diaz noted that the Veterans Administration was a tremendous source of assistance to veterans.

Mr. Ruben Avila (phonetic) noted that he was a former U.S. Marine and a Vietnam Veteran. He commented that he had experienced a significant improvement in the

services provided to veterans by the Veterans Administration and by other organizations since the time he was discharged.

Mr. Joseph Martory commented on the significance of the Veteran's Day Parade, noting that many people in this community were not aware of what a veteran stood for.

Mr. Daubert responded that he did not want others to believe the parade was not important. He said he was from a family of veterans, noting that his mother and father both served in the Korean War.

Chairman Diaz noted there was no explanation for why deaths happened. He said the MAB would work together to deal with the issues on what could be done in these situations.

13. Discussion items for the next agenda

Chairman Diaz encouraged MAB members to include any items of concern on future meeting agendas. He noted follow-up was needed on the mentoring program in conjunction with the State Attorney for Miami-Dade County. Chairman Diaz asked MAB members to forward discussion items to Mr. Cruz to be placed on the agenda.

14. Adjournment

Chairman Diaz commented that today (8/07) was Purple Heart Day.

There being no further business, the Military Affairs Board meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Chairman



Military Affairs Board August 7, 2013

Prepared by: Alan Eisenberg

EXHIBITS LIST

| NO. | DATE | ITEM# | DESCRIPTION |
|-----|------|-----------|---|
| 1 | 8/07 | | Meeting Agenda |
| 2 | 8/07 | 4 a. i. | Resolution No. R-635-13: Commemorating the 50 th Anniversary of the Vietnam War; expressing support for the November 8, 2013 Parade sponsored by the Miami-Dade County Military Affairs Board. |
| 3 | 8/07 | 4 a. ii. | Tentative Parade Line-up |
| 4 | 8/07 | 4 a. iii. | Memorandum from the Department of the Army, 13 th Army Band re: performance at the Veteran's Day Parade |
| 5 | 8/07 | 5 a. | Resignation letter from Dr. Raydel Cornelio |
| 6 | 8/07 | 5 f. | Memorandum from the Department of the Air Force re: Appointment of Major Brooke Cortez |
| 7 | 8/07 | 9 | July 10, 2013 Meeting Minutes |
| 8 | 8/07 | | Sign-in Sheets |
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MIAMI-DADE COUNTY OFFICE OF THE CHAIR MILITARY AFFAIRS ADVISORY BOARD MONTHLY MEETING WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7TH, 2013 6:00PM

FIRE FIGHTERS MEMORIAL BUILDING 8000 NW 21 Street, Doral, FL 33122 AGENDA

- Moment of Silence / Pledge of Allegiance
- ❖ Board Member Roundtable
- * Old Business
 - Veteran's Day Parade update
 - Miami-Dade Resolution 131447
 - Parade Line Up
 - Acceptance of the 13th Army Band
 - Talent update
 - Sponsorship
 - County Attorney's Office
 - Veteran Organizations willing to participate

- Miami-Dade County Veteran Database is operational
- New Business
 - > Board member resignations/appointments
 - Resignation of Raydel Cornelio (District 11)
 - Appointment awaiting BCC approval of Eduardo Lombard (District 11)
 - Resignation of Antonio Colmenares (American Red Cross)
 - Appointment of David Conley (American Red Cross)
 - Resignation of CMSGT Cameron Kirksey (USAF)
 - Appointment of Major Brooke Cortez (USAF)
 - > By Laws meeting with the County Attorney's Office
 - > D-Day 70th Anniversary, June 6th, 2014
 - > New Miami-Dade Military Affairs internet home page
- ❖ Approval of Minutes (July 7th, 2013)
- ❖ Next meeting date is scheduled for September 4th, 2013
- ❖ Discussion items for the next agenda
- Adjournment



Miami-Dade Legislative Item File Number: 131447

型 Printable PDF Format

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File Number: 131447

File Type: Resolution

Status: Adopted

Version: 0

Reference: R-635-13

Control: Board of County Commissioners

File Name: VIETNAM VETERNAS PARADE

Introduced: 7/9/2013

Requester: NONE

Agenda Date: 7/16/2013

Cost:

Final Action: 7/16/2013 Agenda Item Number: 11A10

Title: RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIETNAM WAR; EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE NOVEMBER 8, 2013 PARADE SPONSORED BY THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY MILITARY AFFAIRS BOARD WELCOMING HOME AND REMEMBERING VIETNAM VETERANS; DIRECTING THE MAYOR OR MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY STAFF AND IN-KIND SUPPORT TO COORDINATE THE PARADE WHEN THE COMMISSION APPROVES THE SOURCE OF THE FUNDS AND THE NECESSARY AMOUNT AT A LATER DATE: AND ALLOCATING \$50,000.00 TO THE MILITARY AFFAIRS TRUST FUND FOR THE PARADE WHEN THE COMMISSION APPROVES THE SOURCE OF THE FUNDS AT A LATER DATE

Indexes: VETERANS

ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

Sponsors: Jose "Pepe" Diaz , Prime Sponsor

Esteban L. Bovo, Jr., Co-Sponsor

Sally A. Heyman, Co-Sponsor

Sunset Provision: No

Effective Date:

Expiration Date:

Registered Lobbyist: None Listed

Date

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Acting Body Board of County Commissioners County Attorney

Agenda Item Action 7/16/2013 11A10 7/9/2013

Sent To Adopted Assigned Gerald K Sanchez Due Date Returned Pass/Fail

7/9/2013

County Attorney 7/9/2013 Referred

LEGISLATIVE TEXT

TITLE

RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIETNAM WAR; EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE NOVEMBER 8, 2013 PARADE SPONSORED BY THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY MILITARY AFFAIRS BOARD WELCOMING HOME AND REMEMBERING VIETNAM VETERANS; DIRECTING THE MAYOR OR MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY STAFF AND IN-KIND SUPPORT TO COORDINATE THE PARADE WHEN THE COMMISSION APPROVES THE SOURCE OF THE FUNDS AND THE NECESSARY AMOUNT AT A LATER DATE; AND ALLOCATING \$50,000.00 TO THE MILITARY AFFAIRS TRUST FUND FOR THE PARADE WHEN THE COMMISSION APPROVES THE SOURCE OF THE FUNDS AT A LATER DATE

BODY

WHEREAS, beginning on Memorial Day 2012, the Federal government initiated a partnership with local governments, private organizations, and communities across America to participate in the Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War;

WHEREAS, the Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War is a 13year program to honor and thank the generation of proud Americans who served our country during one of the most challenging missions ever faced by our nation; and WHEREAS, this Board wishes to join in the commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, the Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War is a tribute to the valor of more than 3 million servicemen and women who left their families to serve bravely; and

WHEREAS, through more than a decade of combat, over air, land, and sea, these proud Americans upheld the highest traditions of our Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, as a grateful Nation, we honor more than 58,000 patriots who sacrificed their lives during the Vietnam War and remember those who were wounded and still carry the scars of war; and

WHEREAS, the Military Affairs Board is sponsoring a parade, scheduled for November 8, 2013, commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War, and welcoming home and remembering our Vietnam veterans; and

WHEREAS, this Board believes that it is in the best interest of the citizens of MiamiDade County to support the November 8, 2013 parade sponsored by the Military Affairs Board,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY. FLORIDA, that this Board: (1) joins in the Commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War, (2) supports the November 8, 2013 parade sponsored by the Military Affairs Board welcoming home and remembering our Vietnam veterans and Bay of Pigs veterans; (3) directs the Mayor or Mayor's designee to provide the necessary staff and in-kind support to coordinate the parade when the Commission approves the source of the funds and the necessary amount at a later date; and (4) authorizes the allocation of \$50,000.00 to the Military Affairs Trust Fund for the parade when the Commission approves the source of the funds at

a later date. These funds will be augmented by private contributions.

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Miami-Dade County Military Affairs Board Golden Veterans Parade

TENTATIVE PARADE LINE-UP

(Beginning of Parade)

Motorcycle Group

MAB Members

Elected Officials

Veteran Organization(s) - Group A

Marching Unit (TBD)

School Marching Band (1)

Veteran Organization(s) - Group B

Sponsor Float (*)

Military Asset <1>

School Marching Band (2)

Veteran Organization(s) - Group C

Military Asset <2>

Sponsor Float (**)

School Marching Band (3)

Veteran Organization – Group D

Military Asset <3>

School Marching Band (4)

Sponsor Float (***)

Military Asset <4>

(End of Parade)

Note: As can be seen, the elements of the parade are as follows:

- 1 Motorcycle Group
- 1 Marching Unit
- 3 Sponsor Floats
- 4 School Marching Bands
- 4 Veteran Organizations Groups
- 4 Military Assets



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY 13TH ARMY BAND

FLORIDA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD 7100 Pines Blvd, Suite 20-21, Pembroke Pines, Florida 33024-7355

NGFL-ACB-RD

06 August 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR Mr. Gustavo Cruz, Miami-Dade County Military Affairs, 111 NW 1st Street, Suite 1034, Miami, FL 33128

SUBJECT: National Guard Support to Community Events

- The 13th Army Band accepts the invitation to perform at Golden Veteran's Parade and Ceremony on the 8th of November, 2013.
- 2. POC and FNG event coordinator for this matter is the undersigned at COMM: 954-893-5070, E-mail: jarod.w.fauer@us.army.mil.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

JAROD W. FAUEF SFC, FLARNG Readiness NCO



address P.O. Box 552193 Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33355

tel

(786) 529-4108

www.LittleWarriorProject.org url

July 19, 2013

Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz Chairman Miami Dade Military Affairs Board

Dear Commissioner,

This letter will serve as notification that effective immediately, I Dr. Raydel Cornelio will no longer be able to continue my duties on the military affairs board. If the board or my newly appointed replacements needs my assistance in any future endeavors please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

Raydel Cornelio, Ph.d Founder & CEO Little Warrior Project www.LittleWarriorProject.org



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE AIR FORCE RESERVE COMMAND

7 Aug 13

MEMORANDUM FOR MILITARY AFFAIRS BOARD

FROM: 482 FW/CC

SUBJECT: Appointment of Maj. Brooke Cortez on Military Affairs Board

- 1. I appoint Maj. Brooke Cortez to be the representative and voting member for Homestead Air Reserve Base on the Military Affairs Board. She will be our advocate on behalf of military personnel and their families for HARB.
- 2. This letter supersedes all previous letters, same subject.

CHRISTIAN G. FUNK, Colonel, USAFR

Commander



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY FINAL OFFICIAL MINUTES Miami-Dade Military Affairs Board

Fire Fighters Memorial Building Corp. 8000 NW 21 Street
Miami, FL 33122

July 10, 2013 As Advertised

Harvey Ruvin, Clerk Board of County Commissioners

Christopher Agrippa, Division Chief Clerk of the Board Division

Alan Eisenberg, Commission Reporter (305) 375-2510



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CLERK'S SUMMARY OF MEETING AND OFFICIAL MINUTES MILITARY AFFAIRS BOARD July 10, 2013

The Military Affairs Board (MAB) convened in a meeting on July 10, 2013 at 6:03 p.m. at the Fire Fighters Memorial Building Corp., 8000 NW 21 Street, Miami, FL 33122.

The following voting Board members were present: Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Chairman; Anthony Atwood; Mark Blumstein; Lt. Col. Antonio Colmenares; Town of Miami Lakes Councilman Timothy Daubert; Donna Masson for Diana Gonzalez; Manuel Gonzalez; Joseph Martory; Christopher Miller; and Keith Whitbeck.

The following non-voting Board members were present: Sergeant Eddy Fonseca, Jr.; Colonel Morris Hatcher; Elise Van Pool for "Paul Russo"; Ed Haynes for "U.S. Congresswoman Frederica Wilson"; and Ms. Glorianne Amor for U.S. Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart

The following voting Board members were absent: Mario Alvarez; David Blake; Raydel Cornelio; Thomas Davis; Kevin Humes; Charles Johnson; Jorge Sibila; and Don Slesnick II.

The following non-voting Board members were absent: Captain Mark Jackson; Chief Mater Sergeant Cameron Kirksey; City of Doral Vice Mayor Sandra Ruiz; and Joanna Sandstrom,

The following staff members were present: Jeve Clayton, MAB Interim Director; Gus Cruz, MAB Director; Assistant County Attorney Miguel Gonzalez; Gloria Garces, Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz' Office; and Deputy Clerk Alan Eisenberg.

The following guests were also present: Sergeant Major Eric Geressy; Luis Fernandez; Colonel Antonio Perez; Guillermo Cuadra; Thomas Hastings, Joseph Lynne, and David Conley.

1. Welcome

Chairman Diaz welcomed Board members and guests to tonight's (7/10) Military Affairs Board (MAB) meeting.

2. Moment of Silence / Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Diaz asked Lt. Col. Antonio Colmenares to lead the Military Affairs Board (MAB) in a moment of prayer; this was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Joseph Martory.

Chairman Diaz requested that future MAB Agendas reflect a Moment of Prayer rather than a Moment of Silence.

3. Board Member Roundtable

Chairman Diaz asked Military Affairs Board (MAB) members to introduce themselves and to share pertinent information about their organizations and current programs of interest.

Mr. Anthony Atwood announced that a food distribution hosted by Farm Share was being held at the South Florida Military Museum on Saturday, July 20, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and anyone attending could preview the progress of the new museum under construction.

Mr. Timothy Daubert explained that individuals receiving distributions from Farm Share received a bag of fruit, vegetables, bread, a case of water, fruit drinks and a blanket.

Mr. Joseph Martory announced that he would soon be a great-grandfather.

Mr. Mark Blumstein noted his orders to deploy to Afghanistan were rescinded.

Ms. Donna Masson noted Ms. Diana Gonzalez was attending the Florida Defense Alliance meeting in Pensacola, Fl.

Mr. Manny Gonzalez introduced United States Army Captain James Montiff who served at the U.S. Embassy in Haiti.

Sergeant Major Eric Geressy noted the Navy Marine Corp Reserve would be attending a two week annual training at Camp Blanding, FL for two weeks beginning July 12, 2013.

Mr. Anthony Colmenares introduced Mr. David Conley who was the new American Red Cross' (ARC) Service to the Armed Forces Manager, noting the ARC provided services to the armed forces for 130 years. Mr. Colmenares noted he was the Chairperson of the City of Miami's Homeless Veterans Task Force and the Task Force would be meeting on August 13, 2013 at 11:00 a.m. at the City of Miami Hall to discuss an upcoming three-day homeless veteran's stand-down, which would be held in mid-October 2013. He mentioned that a National Armed Forces Telethon with Connie Francis would be televised on the Military Channel on November 11, 2013 from Los Angeles, CA, Las Vegas, NV, and Miami, FL., with the goal of raising \$200 million to help veterans with traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress disorder.

4. Presentation of Certificate of Appreciation

Chairman Diaz presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Mr. Jeve Clayton for his outstanding support of the Military Affairs Board as its Interim Director.

Mr. Clayton stated that it had been an honor to serve the MAB over the past year. He acknowledged MAB members for working together and for their contributions to the MAB.

5. Introduction of Military Affairs Board Director

Chairman Diaz introduced Mr. Gus Cruz as the new Military Affairs Board (MAB) Director. He noted Mr. Cruz was a United States Marine and a former law enforcement officer. Chairman Diaz said that Mr. Cruz came to the MAB having worked for Commissioner Zapata and that he was a father of two children.

Mr. Cruz provided to the MAB members an overview of his military and law enforcement experience. He said that it was an honor to be placed in this position of trust; that he knew there was much to be done; and that he was fully committed to this position.

It was moved by Mr. Manny Gonzalez to accept the appointment of Mr. Gus Cruz as the Military Affairs Board Director. This motion was seconded by Mr. Timothy Daubert and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 10-0.

6. Old Business

• Veteran's Day Parade

Chairman Diaz acknowledged Ms. Gloria Garces, Mr. Gus Cruz and Mr. Jeve Clayton for their efforts on behalf of the parade. He noted Miami-Dade County (MDC) Mayor Carlos Gimenez was fully supportive and a County resolution endorsing the parade would be presented at the next Board of County Commissioners' meeting. Chairman Diaz explained that this resolution authorizes the Miami-Dade County Police Department and Fire Rescue Department to provide in-kind services. He said it also assigns Deputy Mayor/County Manager Alina Hudak to the event, noting she had previously planned ten Super Bowl events in this community. Chairman Diaz indicated that additional County personnel would be made available to provide logistical support. He noted City of Miami (Miami) Mayor Tomas Regalado was committed and would prepare a similar resolution. Chairman Diaz said that he was working with the Dade County League of Cities to obtain the support and participation of all 35 local municipalities.

Chairman Diaz explained that, pursuant to President Barack Obama's request, in order to receive federal assistance, the County would have to hold the 50-year anniversary of the Vietnam War alongside the Veteran's Day Parade. He said that the federal government requested that the MAB agree to a thirteen-year commitment and to holding two annual events to celebrate Vietnam Veterans. Chairman Diaz noted the Veteran's Day Parade was intended to be a one-time event; that MAB could not commit to such a lengthy obligation; and that efforts to ask for federal participation would continue.

Chairman Diaz said that Mr. Cruz would follow-up to encourage participation of United States Senate and Congressional representatives on the MAB, noting their support was important to the success of the MAB and the parade.

Chairman Diaz pointed out that the parade date was moved from Saturday, November 9, 2013 to Friday, November 8, 2013. He said that it would be easier to secure assets on a Friday, which was a more appropriate day to hold a tickertape parade. Chairman Diaz noted the Flagler Street parade would begin at around noon and conclude with a celebratory event and concert at Bayfront Park. He distributed potential site plans of the Amphitheatre area which holds 25,000 people and the Flagler Promenade area which holds 85,000 people.

Chairman Diaz explained that every MAB member was part of the fundraising committee. He noted the goal was to raise \$500,000, noting this amount did not include \$500,000 for police and fire services underwritten by MDC, Miami and other participating local municipalities. Chairman Diaz pointed out that everyone on the MAB had contacts – people, businesses and organizations – that should be approached to provide assistance. He noted he was establishing an advisory group of influential individuals who were sensitive to veterans' issues to also assist.

Chairman Diaz noted Mr. Thomas Davis was working to secure flyovers from the United States Air Force, Miami-Dade County, and other agencies. He suggested that the federal government partners on the MAB could assist him in this effort. Chairman Diaz pointed out that the United States Southern Command (SOUTHCOM) could help by providing military assets. He said that the South Florida Military Museum could solicit support from the veterans of foreign war and other veterans groups.

Mr. Anthony Atwood indicated that the Legion Riders was a motorcycle group that could participate in the parade.

Chairman Diaz indicated that Miami-Dade County Public Schools Superintendent Alberto Carvalho was committed to the parade and discussions were underway pertaining to the number of bands needed to march and transportation logistical issues. He noted Mr. Antonio Colmenares would secure the participation of the American Red Cross.

Colonel Morris Hatcher noted he did not want the MAB to have a false expectation about SOUTHCOM's level of participation. He pointed out that SOUTHCOM was a senior-level organization and did not have a pool of soldiers, airmen, or other service members to provide. Colonel Hatcher noted he gave Ms. Gloria Garces a specific list of ways SOUTHCOM could provide assistance, other than the availability of service members.

Chairman Diaz said that if SOUTHCOM was unable to provide soldiers, other military installations in this community could do so. He said he communicated with the Florida National Guard and received a commitment from Governor Rick Scott to provide assets. Chairman Diaz noted SOUTHCOM was responsible for much of the military operations

in this area and the MAB appreciated whatever assistance it was able to provide. He said he envisioned that there would be participation from the Marines, the Coast Guard, Special Services, Homestead Air Force Base, the National Guard, the Reserve Officers' Training Corps., and the Veterans Administration, in addition to SOUTHCOM.

Chairman Diaz pointed out that Mr. Cruz would be the liaison person and that all communication should be directed through him rather than to fellow MAB members in order to comply with the Florida Sunshine Law.

Chairman Diaz said he met with Comcast representatives. He noted the Military Channel and the History Channel both indicated their willingness to participate and they were provided the names of Vietnam and Bay of Pigs veterans to interview for documentaries. Chairman Diaz said that they would assist the MAB to secure funding and to promote the event. He noted anyone from Broward, Palm Beach or Monroe Counties that were willing to contribute assets or pay tribute to our veterans was welcome to participate, even though the parade was within the realm of Miami-Dade County.

Mr. Keith Whitbeck suggested that Prisoners of War (POW) and Soldiers Missing in Action (MIA) be included.

Chairman Diaz clarified that the parade was designed as a tribute to the men and women who served this country and was not a political event. He explained that the Vietnam Travelling Memorial Wall was not available as it was booked through 2015. Chairman Diaz announced that Dexter Lehtinen, Larry Hawkins and Bob Levy would be among the featured veterans due to the injuries they received in the Vietnam War.

Chairman Diaz asked MAB members to volunteer and indicate how they could assist rather than being assigned to tasks. He requested that MAB members send their ideas, comments or suggestions to Mr. Cruz.

Mr. Ed Haynes noted 24 veterans from a Broward County Veterans of Foreign War (VFW) post who wrote a book and were using the proceeds of book sales to fund VFW activities were willing to participate in the parade.

Chairman Diaz requested that this group be given a table at no charge to sell their book.

Mr. Luis Fernandez was introduced by Chairman Diaz as an event promoter who would assist with logistics related to the staging area.

Mr. Manny Gonzalez asked who would be responsible to collect and deposit the funds received, and to obtain the participation of food vendors; and whether a trust account would be opened.

Chairman Diaz stressed that the County would receive the funds in a transparent manner and that law enforcement personnel would be involved in all aspects of the event.

Mr. Manny Gonzalez offered to help obtain the participation of food vendors through Miami International Airport (MIA).

Mr. Timothy Daubert pointed out that vehicles for disabled veterans wanting to ride in the parade were needed as well as individuals to push disabled veterans in wheelchairs along the parade route.

7. New Business

Change of Command at Homestead Air Reserve Base

Mr. Gus Cruz announced that Colonel Lindburg was relinquishing command to Colonel Funk in a Change of Command Ceremony on Sunday, July 14, 2013 at 8:00 a.m. He noted the ceremony would be conducted by General Binger, a former Base Commander.

Chairman Diaz asked MAB members to inform Mr. Cruz if they wanted to attend so he could arrange for base access.

Miami-Dade County Employee Veteran Questionnaire

Mr. Gus Cruz said that he wanted to create a County employee database of veterans and active reservists, noting this information could be used to disseminate pertinent information or to request assistance.

Mr. Ed Harris suggested that two additional questions be added to the proposed survey that was distributed to MAB members as follows: 1) What was the reenlistment code for the veteran; and 2) What was the veteran's character of service. He noted this was important data that was needed to assist veterans when requesting service.

Mr. Anthony Atwood noted he concurred that a great deal of unknown code was encrypted in the DD Form 214.

• Other Issues

Chairman Diaz noted information to be included on the MAB website should be forwarded to Mr. Cruz. He said that Mr. Cruz would schedule an appointment with each MAB member to introduce himself and to strengthen the working relationship. Chairman Diaz reiterated that all communication regarding MAB issues should be directed through Mr. Cruz in accordance with the Florida Sunshine Law.

• Presentation to the United States Southern Command (SOUTHCOM)

Chairman Diaz introduced Mr. Luis Fernandez, Colonel Antonio Perez and Mr. Guillermo Cuadra who came to present SOUTHCOM military personnel with tickets to an upcoming World Striking Challenge fight on Saturday, 20, 2013.

Colonel Perez announced that this was the first premier fighting event to be held at the Magic City Casino. He said that a section of the venue was set aside for the military and presented a block of tickets to Colonel Morris Hatcher for distribution to local military personnel.

Mr. Fernandez provided an overview of the event, noting it features fighters from a host of different backgrounds ranging from boxing to karate competing against one another.

Mr. Guillermo Cuadra noted the organization's motto was "no tap outs, just knock outs".

Colonel Hatcher inquired whether it was expected that service members would attend the event in uniform.

Chairman Diaz confirmed that service members were asked to wear their uniforms.

Colonel Perez noted the presence of soldiers in uniform would remind the public of the importance of caring for the military veterans; of inviting them to events; and of recognizing the military for the sacrifices that were made.

Mr. Fernandez informed MAB members that the promotion code "305USA" would give veterans and their families a ticket discount.

Colonel Hatcher expressed his appreciation to Mr. Fernandez, Colonel Perez and Mr. Cuadra for providing this opportunity to the local military personnel.

Mr. Manny Gonzalez suggested that the MAB maintain a record of all organizations that provided benefits to the military.

Chairman Diaz noted he concurred with the suggestion to include information on the MAB website about organizations and companies that supported our military with discounts or special offers.

8. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Mr. Keith Whitbeck that the June 5, 2013 Military Affairs Board Minutes be approved as corrected to reflect that the Armed Forces Services Center at Miami International Airport served over 2000 people in June 2010 rather than 2000

people in the first paragraph of Page 5. This motion was seconded by Mr. Timothy Daubert and upon being put to a vote, passed by a unanimous vote.

9. Next Meeting Date

Chairman Diaz announced that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday, August 7, 2013.

10. Discussion Items for the next agenda

Chairman Diaz noted items to be placed on the agenda should be forwarded to Mr. Gus Cruz.

11. Announcements

Mr. Anthony Atwood announced that Chairman Diaz was honored today (7/10) by the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce for Lifetime Achievement in Military Affairs.

Mr. Keith Whitbeck noted the Armed Forces Services Center and the Air Force Association hosted 1,000 military personnel at the Port of Miami Seaman's Café. He announced the opening of the Armed Forces Services Center at Miami International Airport on September 20, 2013 and asked that this event be included in the next MAB meeting agenda.

Mr. Ed Haynes noted Congresswoman Frederica Wilson would host a port caucus at the Port of Miami on July 15, 2013 to discuss local jobs related to the Panama Canal expansion. He said that this would be an opportunity for veteran set-aside jobs. Mr. Haynes noted he would provide Mr. Cruz with a flyer to be distributed to MAB members.

12. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Military Affairs Board meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Chairman

MIAMI DADE COUNTY MILITARY AFFAIRS BOARD August 7th, 2013

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MIAMI DADE COUNTY MILITARY AFFAIRS BOARD August 7th, 2013

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