

**Meeting Minutes- Suffolk County  
Women Veterans Advisory Board**

**February 21, 2020**

**Board Members Present:** *Legislator Susan A. Berland, StaceyAnn Castro Tapler, Marcelle Leis, Cathie Norton Doherty, Grace Mehl, Madeline Feaster, Melissa Pandolf*

Meeting called to order.

**First order of Business:**

Approving the minutes from the January 30, 2020 meeting

-Minutes were approved 7-0

**Discussion of Women Veterans Appreciation Day Legislation and Event:**

The Board discussed the bill to create June 12<sup>th</sup> as Women Veterans Appreciation Day in Suffolk County that is currently before the Legislature. StaceyAnn and Cathie both agreed to attend committee to speak on behalf of The Board in support of the bill.

The Board also started initial plans for what type of event they would hold to honor the day if the resolution passed. Potential ideas included: a luncheon, an event at a catering hall or having different business throughout Suffolk County either donate items or provide discounts to female veterans on June 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Legislative Ideas:**

A robust discussion was had regarding the need to find legislative solutions to helping find or create housing for homeless and/or struggling female veterans. Legislator Berland handed out an article regarding a recent collaboration Seneca County did with Habitat for Humanity to create a housing program for homeless female veterans and asked the members to read it and come back to the next meeting ready to discuss

**Announcements:**

The Suffolk County Marathon Grant Application is open and are due on March 27<sup>th</sup>

The next meeting will be March 20, 2020 at 10am in the Legislature's Clerk's Conference Room

Meeting was adjourned.