

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

October 9, 2020

Board Members Present: *Legislator Susan A. Berland, StaceyAnn Castro Tapler, Marcelle Leis, Cathie Norton Doherty, Grace Mehl, Madeline Feaster, Wiliamina (Ina) Casali, Lenore Braitwaite.*

Meeting called to order.

The meeting was held via Zoom.

First order of Business:

Approving the minutes from the June 8, 2020 meeting

-Minutes were approved 6-0

Legislative Ideas:

The Board brought up the need not just for housing for homeless female veterans but specifically transitional housing. The article that Legislator Berland brought to the February 21, 2020 was again brought up. The members said they would look at the article again and discuss it at their next meeting as something to consider.

New Business:

StaceyAnn started a discussion on creating a Needs Assessment Survey that female veterans can fill out. The survey would include questions like: What do you need, what do you wish you had, what are your issues with the VA. The purpose is a streamlined process to get this information from veterans to better understand what it is they need and what resources we can help provide.

Announcements:

Cathie Doherty told The Board that Congressman Zeldin's office is looking to do a female veterans roundtable and to reach out to her if anyone wanted to participate.

Lenore Braithwaite said that Northwell Health is also looking to do a roundtable and she will provide more information when it becomes available.

Meeting was adjourned.