

Military and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee

In person and virtually via Zoom

Meeting Minutes of July 14, 2026

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Vice Chair Commander Manny Beltran

Subcommittee Members Present:

Manny Beltran, Vice Chair
Wanda Wright

Gary Vaughan
Paul Johnson

Paula Pedene
Bob Dalpe

Subcommittee Members Absent:

Honorable Adrian Fontes, Chair
Julia Gusse
Les Presmyk
Erin Hannigan

Jonell Sullivan
Sean Stoddard
Nicole LaSlavic

David Lucier
Paul Aguirre
Keith Gray

2. Discussion and possible action on meeting minutes for May 12, 2026

Because a quorum was not present, the Subcommittee did not take action on the May 12, 2026, meeting minutes.

3. Report from Executive Director Laura Terech

The Executive Director reflected on the year and expressed gratitude to the subcommittee for its commitment, networking, and service. Members also shared appreciation for the opportunity to participate during this commemorative year and highlighted some of their favorite events and experiences.

The subcommittee received a reminder to watch for additional information regarding the Bell Rededication and Volunteer Recognition Ceremony scheduled for October 1, 2026.

4. Discussion, updates, and possible action on projects and initiatives to engage military members, military families, and Veterans in the Semiquincentennial

This agenda item, regarding discussion, updates, and possible action on projects and initiatives to engage military members, military families, and Veterans in the Semiquincentennial, was not taken up and was skipped.

5. Member share out on upcoming events or initiatives.

This agenda item was skipped and no member reports were presented during this portion of the meeting.

6. Call to the Public

During the call to the public, Dana shared information about a project involving Heal for Art, a women Veterans program offering free arts and crafts in the Phoenix area. Dana also noted “Wildflowers of Liberty,” artwork created by 56 women Veterans in honor of America’s 250th anniversary, which has been sold and will be displayed nationally, and members expressed enthusiasm for this recognition.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business, Vice Chair Beltran adjourned the meeting at 9:27 a.m.