



# Sullivan County

## Veterans Committee

### Meeting Minutes - Final

Chair Luis Alvarez  
Vice Chair Nicholas Salomone Jr.  
Committee Member Amanda Ward  
Committee Member Catherine Scott  
Committee Member Matt McPhillips

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**Thursday, February 5, 2026**

**12:00 PM**

**Government Center**

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#### **1. Call To Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

Vice Chair Nicholas Salomone called the Veterans Committee Meeting to order at 12:05pm.

#### **2. Roll Call**

**Present:** Nicholas Salomone Jr., Amanda Ward, Catherine Scott and Matt McPhillips

**Absent:** Luis Alvarez

#### **3. Opening Remarks - Luis Alvarez, Chairman**

Brian McPhillips, Nadia Rajsz

Joshua Potosek, Michelle Bowers, Dan /Hust, Robert Freehill, Sharon Jankiewicz, Chris Knapp

Ken Walter, Lise Kennedy, Martha Scoppa, Jerry Stevens, Manny Steinberg

Howie Goldsmith, VFW #5499, American Legion Post #73

Alphonso Russell American Legion #73

Lauren Roman VFW Post #7276/AMVETS/American Legion

Hugo Ramirez, VFW Post \$4947/American Legion #1266

Butch Kortwright, Sullivan County Long Beards

Stephen Walsh, Sullivan County Veterans Service Agency

#### **4. Reports:**

##### **5. Commanders Reports - Veterans Service Organizations**

1. Commander Butch Kortwright gave an update on Long Beards and personal achievements.
2. Commander Howie Goldsmith gave an update on the Veterans Coalition.

**6. Veterans Service Agency - Director's Report**

Veterans Service Director Stephen Walsh gave his monthly report.

**7. Discussion:****New Law about Disabled Veterans Tax Exemption - Chris Knapp and Stephen Walsh**

Veterans Service Director Stephen Walsh and Director of Real Property Tax Services gave an update on the new law that Governor Hochul signed regarding Disabled Veterans Tax Exemption. This was signed into law by Governor Hochul on December 19, 2025. A Chapter amendment was filed on January 6, 2026 for adding and amending Subdivision 11.

**8. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**9. Resolutions: - None****9. Adjourn**

There being no further business, Catherine Scott moved to adjourn, seconded by Matt McPhillips. The Veterans Committee was adjourned at 12:34pm.