

FORMAL MEETING NOTICE AGENDA

LOWELL VETERANS COMMISSION

DATE: Wednesday, 14th January 2026 at 5:00 PM

Location: Lowell Telemedia Center, 246 Market Street, Lowell, MA 01852

**Meeting:**

- a. Call to Order: 5:00 PM
- b. Pledge of Allegiance
- c. Roll Call Attendance
  - PARADISE, PAUL
  - GAFFNEY, JAMES III
  - COTE, RICHARD A.
  - HARMON, JAMES
  - PEEPLES, MICHAEL
  - CEROVAC, ROBERT
  - GAUTHIER, PHILIAS
  - PIMENTEL, NAYELI
  - PEEPLES, JEAN, SUB COMMITTEE MEMBER
  - ERIC LAMARCHE, DIRECTOR OF VETERANS' SERVICES

**Discussion:**

1. Follow up to the December meeting and guest speaker Ted Serozynsk, Director Military and Veteran Services of UMass Lowell. A copy of a thank you email, and Ted's response is included. Ted is offering to help the Veterans Commission help Veterans.
2. Seeking nominations and elections to the position of Vice Chairperson of the Lowell Veterans Commission. There is still one vacancy left for the Veterans Commission.
3. The Veterans Commission is seeking nominations for the Veterans Recognition Program to honor Veterans.
4. Upcoming Events:
  - a. **Memorial Day** Event: Time, place and date are needed, as well as guest speakers and other event suggestions such as holding the event at the new Veterans Park.
    - i. A suggestion was made to lay a wreath at the new Veterans Memorial Park (like the President does at Arlington National Cemetery). A donation of a wreath may be possible by contacting the florist who provided the flowers for last year's Memorial Day Event.
  - b. **The 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade** event (250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our Nation's Independence). A meeting date is needed with Mellisa of the City of Lowell regarding the Veterans Commission participation.
    - i. Suggestions include holding the events at or ending them at LeLacheur Park, Tsonga Arena, the new Veterans Park, or the area around the former Enterprise Bank. Activities suggestions included fireworks, showcasing muscle cars to chauffeur Veterans and the Gold Star Mother Lowell in the parade, inviting the Vets Center, VA, and the WFW to participate, as well as other organizations such as Scouts of American and others. Also, food trucks honor guard, etc. Also, a suggestion was made that a letter of invitation on City letterhead be drawn up to present to the potential organization asking for their participation in the parade.

5. What are the rules of solicitation of donations by the members of the Veterans Commission? The following is a copy of the text from the Internet:
  - a. Yes, a commission member can solicit donations in Massachusetts, provided they adhere to the states' conflict of interest law. The law allows municipal employees to solicit donations from persons and entities with whom they have or expect to have official dealings, as long as certain conditions are met. These conditions include ensuring the solicitation is not coercive, that no pressure is exerted, that objective standards are applied, and that the names of those solicited are disclosed publicly.
    - i. Source: Ethics advisory addresses fundraising for municipality - Massachusetts Municipal Association (MMA)
  
6. Approve meeting minutes of 12/10/25,11/12/25,10/8/25, 09/10/25, and 06/11/25.
  - a. Permission is needed for the Secretary to forward copies of the Minutes and Agendas to the City of Lowell to post on City of Lowell's Website on the Internet.
  
7. Administrative matters:
  - a. Permission is needed from the Veterans Commission for the Secretary to contact the City of Lowell to update online information regarding the time and address of the meetings of the Veterans Commission and update the list of the Lowell Veterans Commission Members and titles.
  - b. An updated email address is needed for member Nayeli Pimentel.
  - c. Password and access for the Veterans Commission email account is needed for the Secretary.
  
8. New Business:
  
9. Conclusion:
  - a. Invite the viewing audience to attend upcoming meetings held at Lowell Telemedia Center, 246 Market Street, Lowell, MA.
  - b. Next meeting February 11, 2026.
  
10. Move to adjourn.                      Adjourned Time: \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Move – \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. 2<sup>nd</sup> – \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Unanimous approval

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**Regularly scheduled meetings of the Lowell Veterans Commission are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month Lowell TeleMedia Center, 246 Market St, Lowell, MA 01852 starting at 5:00 PM. The following is a list of scheduled meetings: September 10, 2025, October 8, 2025, November 12, 2025, December 10, 2025, January 14, 2026, February 11, 2026, March 11, 2026, April 8, 2026, May 13, 20256 and. June 10, 2026.**