

**LOWELL VETERANS COMMISSION MINUTES 8-18-2022**

Date: August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Time 5:00 PM

Location: City of Lowell Council Chambers. Lowell Cable TV Coverage was provided

The Meeting was called to order by the Chair at 5:00 PM The Chair led the Commission and invited guests in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and moment of silence for departed comrades.

James Gaffney acted as clerk called the role and the following answered present

Bayerle, Walt; Cote, Richard; Gaffney, James; Gorman, Brian; O'Neil Walter; Vann, Andeth; Wedge, Kenneth, White, Latashia;

The Chair welcomed a delegation from The Lowell Housing Authority (LHA) and James Gaffney Introduced Philip Shea the Housing Authority Chair. The Housing Authority Delegation, in addition to its Chair, consisted of Gary Wallace Executive Director, Adam Garvey Assistant Executive Director, Atty Kevin Murphy Chief Legal Counsel, Tha Chan Chief Admission Officer, Allison Purtell, Assistant Chief Admissions Officer, Kevin Forsley Assistant Chief Admissions Officer

Chairman Shea gave an overview of the Housing Authority and its activities including its commitment to Veterans. He discussed Veteran facilities which would be coming on line including the Historic Hadley House and Merrimack Street projects Mr. Wallace followed with further discussion of Veteran facilities addressing among other issues the value of the Veterans Preference which the LHA has elected to maintain. Counsel Murphy described the legislative history of the Hadley House grant and the public purpose guarantee built into the legislation. Mr Chan and Mr Foresly further discussed Veteran eligibility, Preference, assistance for Homeless Veterans, the application process and review of application to insure the application process insuring maximum entitlement to benefits. Commission members and LHA Chair Shea and Director Wallace discussed future collaboration between LHA and the Veterans Commission which. Mr. Tha Chan had described as a "bridge" connecting the organizations. LHA shared its phone Number -978 364 5361 for access by Veterans of others needing housing information

Upon Motion made and seconded, it was voted to adjourn

Minutes were approved as a True Record of the proceedings of the Lowell Veterans Commission by vote of the Commission at its meeting on October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022

James Gaffney III  
Name and title Lowell Veterans  
Commissioner

10/13/2022  
Date