

LOWELL VETERANS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES 9/12/18

Date: 9/12, 2018 **Time:** 6:04 PM

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

1 Introductory- meeting called to order by Vice Chair Andeth Vann acting as Chair in the absence of Mike Peaslee. Acting Chair Vann then led the Commission in a pledge of allegiance to the flag and a moment of silence for deceased comrades

2. Roll Call – The clerk Called the roll; the following members were in attendance. The presence of a quorum was noted

Flanagan William
Gaffney, James
Guigere, Norm
Hall, James
Mitchell Adam
Vann, Andeth

3. Approval of Minutes & Prior Minutes. Upon motion made by Mr. Guigere and seconded by Mr. Hall. The minutes for the August 8th, 2018 meeting were approved by unanimous vote

4. Old Business: Under old business, Andeth Vann addressed the recurring issue of suicide prevention encouraging suggestions as to how the commission might recognize or help with this issue. Mr. Hall noted that September was Suicide Prevention month and that Army Reserve components were sponsoring a “virtual” run/walk to raise funds and awareness for this cause- suggesting that the commission might do something similar next year

7. New Business. Under new business, the commission heard from Gail McAuliffe head of the Massachusetts Women’s Veterans Network invited by VSO Eric LaMarche. She discussed various outreach efforts to reach the estimated 22000 Massachusetts Women Veterans including conference, organization of groups, outstanding Woman Veteran award in November. Her discussion included SAVE team advocacy efforts and efforts in the area of suicide prevention and Veterans in Crisis

8. Informal Session


At the conclusion of the guest speaker’s remarks, one member departed leaving the Commission without a quorum. Remaining members continued in informal session discussing several matters but not taking any action.

Mr. Guigere suggested clarifying criteria for Veteran of the Month eligibility

Mr. Guigere also suggested more recognition for businesses which provide discounts for Veterans. VSO Eric Lamarche indicated he was seeking approval to list these businesses on web site.

At the end of the scheduled meeting hour, remaining members departed

Signed this 10th Day of October, 2018, as a true record of the proceeding of the City
Of Lowell Veterans Commission



James J. Gaffney III - Clerk