

## **LOWELL VETERANS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES MAY 9<sup>TH</sup> 2018**

The Clerk, acting as temporary Chair called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM and led the commission in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

James P Hall. Acting as Temporary Clerk called the roll. The following members were present and Mr. Hall noted the establishment of a quorum

Cartier, Roland  
Flanagan, William  
Freehling, Nathan  
Gaffney, James J. III  
Hall, James Jr.  
McDevitt, William

After motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the April 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Approval of Prior Minutes-noted as still pending.

Member Roland Cartier addressed The Commission and extended his thanks to Veterans and others who had recently provided assistance.

Under the "Old Business Veteran Suicide category, Mr. McDevitt proposed inviting Janine Wert, Director of Veterans Service at UMass Lowell to address the meeting. Mr. McDevitt indicated that Director Wert had extensive experience dealing with Veteran Suicide and PTSD issues. There was no formal vote but general assent to the proposal, Mr. McDevitt to follow up

Under the New Business Category, the Commission proceeded to address pending Veteran of the Month nominations

Upon motion duly made and seconded, Ricard P Howe Jr. was unanimously voted as Veteran of the Month for January 2018

Upon motion duly made and seconded Judy Phothimath was unanimously voted as Veteran of the Month for February 2018

Upon motion duly made and seconded Nick Laganas and Justin Spencer were unanimously voted as Veterans of the Month for March 2018

Upon motion duly made and seconded Joseph Dussault was unanimously voted as Veteran of the Month for April 2018

Upon motion duly made and seconded Peter Golden, James Golden, and Christopher Golden were unanimously voted as Veterans of the Month for May, 2018

Upon motion duly made and seconded Edward T Gillis, WWI KIA was unanimously voted as Veteran of the Month for June,2018

Under Veterans Service Officer Update, VSO Eric LaMarche advised of his ASPA Distinguished Veteran Award and reported on Veteran Grave flag decoration project at Edson Cemetery. He discusses plans for the Gillis Square Centennial rededication scheduled for July 21<sup>st</sup>, 1918 at the City Hall Foyer. Mr. Flanagan reviewed the previous offer for the event to be hosted by the Rogers Hall Group. Mr. Lamarche said he would revisit the site issue with the Gillis family

There being no further business to bring before the Commission, upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at approximately 6:35 P.M.

Signed this 13<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2018 as a true record of proceedings of the city of Lowell Veterans Commission

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James J. Gaffney III", is written over a horizontal line.

James J. Gaffney III, clerk