

October 3, 2024

Board Chambers

## Veterans Commission

## MINUTES

### Members

**Ted Bull**

**Jesse J. Citizen**

**Dr. Vanessa M. Gattis**

**Nancy Jean-Louis**

**Donnell E. Johns, Sr.**

**Cheryl Lamar**

**Joshua Quill**

**Dean Woodard**

Present: Commissioners Ted Bull, Jesse J. Citizen, Vanessa Gattis, Nancy Jean-Louis, Donnell Johns Sr., Cheryl Lamar, and Dean Woodard; Director of Human Resources Joseph Gilkerson and Admin Stacy Anderson. Chair Vanessa Gattis called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

### Minutes

- There were no minutes to approve.

### Public Comment Time

- None

### Administrative Remarks

- None

### Work Session

- Sean Lanier from Resolution Solutions presented his organization's program.

### New Business

- **Vice-Chair and Secretary Elections**
  - *Vice-Chair:* Citizen (Johns-motion/Woodard-seconded/unanimous)
  - *Secretary:* Woodard (Citizen-motion/Johns-seconded/unanimous)
- **Commission Goals**
  - Discussed goals for the Commission. Chair Gattis requested each commissioner to bring 3 ideas for future Commission goals to the November meeting.
  - Discussion initial plans to create a Veterans Expo and the requirement for holding the event.
- **Commitment to Participation**
  - Discussed the importance of consistent meeting attendance and participation to support the Commission's initiatives.

### Commissioner's Time

- **Commissioner Woodard** – Extended a birthday wish to the Navy on October 13<sup>th</sup>.
- **Commissioner Johns** – Invited Commissioners to the Veterans Connect event, held on the third Thursday of every month.
- **Commissioner Jean-Louis** – Recognized Hispanic community members who have served, honoring Hispanic Heritage Month.
- **Commissioner Gattis** – Welcomed new Commissioner Ted Bull. Provided details on the Thanksgiving food drive, with collection ongoing until November 1, 2024, and distribution to at least 2,500 families on November 23 in Dumfries starting at 11:00am until completion. Flyers with event information will be sent and volunteers are welcome.

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm. (Citizen-motion/Lamar-seconded/unanimous)