



City of New Bedford

IN COMMITTEE

February 23, 2023

The Honorable City Council
133 William Street
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Honorable Members of the City Council:

The Committee on Appointments & Briefings, at a meeting held on Monday, February 13, 2023, considered a COMMUNICATION, Mayor Mitchell, to City Council, submitting the APPOINTMENT of WILLIAM COMEAU, New Bedford, MA, a United States Army Vietnam Veteran, to the VETERANS ADVISORY BOARD; Mr. Comeau will be replacing Anthony Rezendes, who has resigned; this term will expire in December 2023. (Ref'd 11/10/2022) (12/13/2022 – Lack of Quorum, matter not heard) (01/10/2023 – tabled, applicant not present) (01/11/2023 – communication received from the Administration withdrawing the application for this candidate)

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Burgo, the Committee VOTED: To recommend that the City Council take “NO FURTHER ACTION” on the COMMUNICATION, Mayor Mitchell, to City Council, submitting the APPOINTMENT of WILLIAM COMEAU, New Bedford, MA, a United States Army Vietnam Veteran, to the VETERANS ADVISORY BOARD; Mr. Comeau will be replacing Anthony Rezendes, who has resigned; this term will expire in December 2023. This motion passed on a voice vote.

IN COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS & BRIEFINGS

Councillor Naomi R. A. Carney, Chairperson

NRAC/at



CITY OF NEW BEDFORD
JONATHAN F. MITCHELL, MAYOR

November 3, 2022

City Council President Ian Abreu and
Honorable Members of the City Council
City of New Bedford
133 William Street
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Council President Abreu and Honorable Members of the Council:

I am submitting for your approval the **APPOINTMENT** of **WILLIAM COMEAU**, a United States Army Vietnam Veteran, of 372 Brooklawn Avenue, New Bedford, MA to the **VETERANS ADVISORY BOARD**. Mr. Comeau is replacing Anthony Rezendes, who has resigned. This term will expire in December 2023.

Sincerely,

Jonathan F. Mitchell
Mayor

JFM/sds
Attachment

cc: William Comeau
Chris Gomes

CITY CLERK

2022 NOV -3 PM 2:30

CITY CLERK
NEW BEDFORD, MA



CITY OF NEW BEDFORD
BOARD & COMMISSION APPLICATION

The Mayor is seeking citizens who wish to serve on City Boards and Commissions established to assist and advise the City on specific matters. Please complete this application in full (attach a resume and other information which may assist the Mayor and the City Council in making its selection) and email to Silvia.DaSilva@newbedford-ma.gov. The Mayor reserves the right to reject any application. Appointments may be subject to confirmation by the City Council.

Board/Commission applying for (see attached list): Veterans Advisory Board

Name: William Comeau Email: _____

Home telephone: 508 558 5177 Work telephone: retired

Residence address: 372 Brooklawn Avenue, New Bedford, MA Zip code: 02745

Present occupation & place of employment: Retired

Educational background: New Bedford Vocational High, Management courses SMU

Memberships in community organizations or professional groups:

Jr, Vice Commander, Board Member, New Bedford Reginal DAV Chapter #7
Jr. Vice Commander, Board Member, VFW Post 739, Acushnet, MA

City Board and/or Commissions on which you have previously served:

none

Reasons why you wish to be considered for appointment by the Mayor:

I have close relations with local Veterans organizations in the New Bedford area, organized fund raising and researched historical reviews of the local veteran establishments.

Recipient, Franco American Veteran of the Year 2017, La Ligue des Franco Americains
see attached

Please detail specific areas of expertise:

I have written newsletters for my Vietnam Veterans organization for the last 22 years that are archived in the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center - Army War College. I have produced video and slideshow presentations for our veteran organizations and maintained spreadsheets on the members of not only our local DAV and VFW units, but those of Alpha Association.

Please detail specific areas of interest:

Historical research and helping veterans in need of assistance from the Veterans Administration

Availability for meetings: daytime ☐ evenings ☐ both ☒ (check one)

Resident of the City since: 1946 (please provide year)

Please provide two references:

Name: James Gagnon Relationship: DAV Commander
Phone number: 1-771-5-0000 Email: jp@jagagnon.com

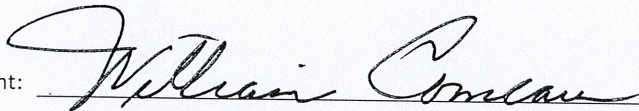
Name: Devan Robitaille Relationship: VFW Commander
Phone number: 508-548-1111 Email: devan@devanrob.com

Appointees and incumbents may be required to file a Statement of Economic Interest, as required by the City Council Rules or the Mayor. The Statement may require a declaration that you have no interest in conflict with the City of New Bedford. Please return your completed application to the Mayor's Office, 133 William Street, Room 311, New Bedford, MA 02740.

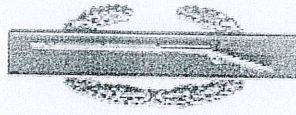
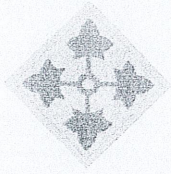
Applications will be kept on file for two years.

I DECLARE UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY THAT THE FOREGOING INFORMATION IS TRUE AND CORRECT.

Signature of Applicant:



Date: 07/06/2022



Wednesday, July 06, 2022

William Comeau, 372 Brooklawn Avenue, New Bedford, MA 02745

List of accomplishments and honors:

Military:

- U.S. Army 1965-1967
- Combat Infantry Badge
- Bronze Star for Meritorious Service for service in Vietnam 1966-67
- Presidential Unit Citation awarded for my participation in the March 21, 1967 Battle of Suoi Tre with the 2/12th Infantry equal to every soldier who participated in the battle receiving a Distinguished Service Cross, our nation's second highest Army military decoration for soldiers who display extraordinary heroism in combat with an armed enemy force. During that battle the Vietcong suffered the highest loss of life from a single day battle of the entire Vietnam Conflict. 638 Vietcong enemy soldiers were killed in a three-hour battle
- Vietnam Campaign Medal
- Vietnam Service Medal, two stars for the two campaigns I was in
- National Defense Medal
- Good Conduct Medal
- Unit Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with oak leaf

Post military/Veterans' personal history:

- President, Historian, Newsletter Publisher, Webmaster, 'Alpha Association' a veterans' organization of soldiers who served in my company during the period of 1966-67, (when I served) numbering 320 members and presently at 160 members.
- Served as the Regimental Historian for the U.S. 12th Infantry Regiment's Monument at the Walk of Honor, US Infantry Museum, Fort Benning GA.

- Honored as a Distinguished Member of the 12th Infantry Regiment for my service to the regiment.
- Awarded the Order of St. Maurice Medal by the National Infantry Association for my dedication and my promotion of the United States Infantry
- Franco-American Veteran of the Year, 2017

Veteran Skill Areas:

- Mail merge mailings for veteran organizations
- Historical research for veteran organizations
- Video and slideshow productions for reunions and local celebrations
- Organizing and producing annual raffle efforts for the local veteran organizations
- Communication Director, Acushnet VFW
- Ten-year office holder at both the Acushnet VFW and New Bedford Regional DAV Chapter, including two years as Treasurer when the DAV Chapter was in danger of closing because of the Covid pandemic. Our Chapter Commander and I were the only two people keeping the chapter open when everyone remained at home and refused to take open positions
- Recently published a book called 'Duel with the Dragon at the Battle of Suoi Tre' that recounts my upbringing in New Bedford, my entry into the US Army in Dec 1965, and the history of the men who served with me. This book is due out in July 25th, 2022 after a twenty-year research effort and two years of actually writing the book.

Bill Comeau,
President, Alpha Association