



**City of Biddeford
Veterans Committee**

February 23, 2026 at 4:30 PM

City Hall Second Floor Conference Room & Microsoft Teams

[Veterans Committee Meeting | Meeting-Join | Microsoft Teams](#)

Meeting ID:269 486 196 830 93

Passcode:K8F9Zs25

1. Roll Call
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approval of Past Meeting Minutes
 - 3.a Review/ Approve minutes from 27 October 2025 Veterans Committee Meeting
4. Old Business
 - 4.a Biddeford Veterans Committee- Status, Structure, Purpose, and Recommendation
5. New Business
 - 5.a Staff Updates on Community Veteran's Services
6. Discussion/Review
7. Adjourn

City of Biddeford
Veterans Committee Meeting Minutes
October 27, 2025 at 4:30p.m.
City Hall Council Chambers

1. Meeting called to order at 1630 hours (4:30pm)
 - Members present: Roger Beaupre (chair), Eric Gates (vice chair), Jen Fullmer, Fred Oliver, Quang Mihn Le, Kevin Locke, Jake Hammer (city representative)
 - Members absent: Ben Neveux
2. Pledge of Allegiance recited.
3. Motion and second to approved meeting minutes from 22 September 2025 meeting.
Vote: All in favor, motion passed.
4. Old Business
 - **Veterans Day**
 - Discussed the parade route due to construction
 - Starting on Water Street at Mechanics Park, quick stop on the bridge for the unveiling
 - of the new General Nutting sign, up York Hill, down Saco Main Street, Beach Street, Middle Street, and end at CK Burns school for closing ceremony.
 - HOB is still soliciting people to be part of the parade.
 - Gene Foster (USN CMC Ret.) recommended that the dedication of the bridge sign be held on Memorial Day instead of Veterans Day due to construction.
 - **Vietnam War Panel Discussion** – (50th anniversary Vietnam War official end event)
 - Jen said she reached out to Wendy at Biddeford Theater and they were checking with the board for availability to utilize the theater as a venue for the event.
 - Eric recommended perhaps holding it at the High School & tie it in with the social Sciences department studies
 - Jen said she would reach out to them too and update everyone on the final plan
5. New Business
 - **Status of Veterans Committee**
 - Discussed about whether this committee will move from ad hoc to permanent
 - Mayor Grohman began this committee as ad hoc (temporary) and it is usually typical for an ad hoc committee to dissolve upon a new administration taking over
 - Roger said that he was going to speak with the policy committee tonight about making the veterans committee a permanent committee
 - **Discussed the structure of a permanent veterans committee** to be comprised of all veterans, from Saco & OOB also
 - Roger said the goal would be to incorporate people from surrounding communities, a tri-city veterans committee

- **Purpose of Veterans Committee**

- Members of the local VVA post said that the committee should be more involved in helping veterans in the community
- Eric reminded everyone that there are federal & state programs that already exist and we should be a conduit so smooth communication occurs
- Discussed that the committee should be a place to receive information, share information, and provide the council with information on status of veterans in the community
- **Task – asked everyone to think about how the committee might serve as a “conduit,” as a uniting function and not try to duplicate what already exists**
 - Eric said he would send some thoughts to consider
 - Decision was made to discuss this more in depth at the next meeting

6. Veteran Organization Updates

- **AMVETS Post 1**

- Recognized as post raising the most money to send Maine high school students to expenses paid Freedom Foundation in Valley Forge, PA
- September breakfast raised \$650 for Seeds of Hope Neighborhood Center
- October breakfast for HS band, November breakfast for Toys for Tots, December breakfast for Biddeford High School scholarships
- Capacity of AMVETS function hall is 125 (if add lounge, then a little over 150)
- After Veterans Day Parade – complimentary community meal for anyone

- **American Legion Post 26**

- Opened up their hall quite a bit, lots of renovations but cannot do cooking
- Probably in March or April they will be able to do more: meals, help veterans, etc.
- Current utility: Girl Scouts, Wed Bible Study, Red Cross drives – will rent to any group
- Post has two service officers and they will help any veteran who needs it
- Capacity is sixty-five currently, once more renovations are complete it will be 75-100

7. Next Meeting & Agenda Items

- Monday, 26 January at 4:30pm at City Hall Council Chambers
- Agenda items
 - Biddeford Veterans Committee – status, structure, purpose, and recommendation

8. Meeting adjourned – 5:00pm