



## **Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe**

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### **TRIBAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**2023-RES-125**

### **APPROVAL ESTABLISHING THE MASHPEE WAMPANOAG TRIBE VETERANS COUNCIL**

**WHEREAS**, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe (“Tribe”) is a federally-recognized Indian Tribe with a duly-enacted Constitution; *and*,

**WHEREAS**, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council (“Tribal Council”), the governing body of the Tribe, deems it essential, and is empowered, under Article VI, §2.A. of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Constitution to promote and protect the health and general welfare of the members of the Tribe; *and*,

**WHEREAS**, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe recognizes and commends the selfless service of our veterans, who defended and protected our lives, liberties, rights and safety; *and*

**WHEREAS**, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe expresses our gratitude by way of establishing the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Veterans Council to improve upon services, resources and protections of our veterans and their families; *and*

**WHEREAS**, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe strives to ensure that our veterans and their families do not face prejudice, discrimination, or unequal treatment.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Tribal Council approves the establishment of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Veterans Council to advise Tribal Council on all matters that impact Tribal veterans to better support and increase veteran opportunities.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the veteran’s council shall review and assess Tribal, federal and state laws, regulations, existing programs, and services relating to veterans to enhance the lives of veterans and their families.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the veteran’s council shall meet at least once a month or as needed to fulfill its purpose. A quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the veteran’s council shall be the majority of its five (5) members comprised of the following: (1) Chair, (1) Secretary, (1) Treasurer (1) Council Member (1) Council Member. Members must be a member of a federally recognized Tribe and verify their Honorable Veteran status with a copy of a DD214-Member 4 copy, or a Government Veteran/V.A. ID, or MA driver license that shows “Veteran”, or a NGB22 form (National Guard/Reservist). A Veteran is defined as any person who has served on Active Duty in any Military Branch, or National Guard or Reservist who was activated for a period of 90 days or more (not for training) or served at least 1 day in a Combat Zone. Or National Guard or Reservist who have Honorably served 6 years of total service.

Members shall serve without compensation, in an advisory capacity for a term of three (3) years.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the veteran’s council will appoint officers from within to serve as Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer by an affirmative vote of a majority of all members present at a duly called meeting. The Chairperson shall serve as the official representative of the veteran’s council, preside over the meetings, set the agenda of the meetings, provide quarterly reports to the Tribal Council, and perform such other duties that the Tribal Council may require. The Secretary shall keep full and accurate records of all meetings and actions taken by the veteran’s council. The Treasurer shall keep full and accurate financial records of all accounts receivable and payable of the veteran’s council. In the absence of the Chairperson, the Secretary will assume the roles and responsibilities of the Chairperson. In absence of the Secretary, the Treasurer will assume the roles and responsibilities of the Chairperson. Officers shall serve a one-year term. Officer appointments will be scheduled no later than the meeting prior to the expiration of the officer’s terms.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Tribal Council will permit express authority to the veteran’s council to manage incoming and outgoing funds and shall have the authority to review and request reports of the veteran’s council activities, decisions and financials at any time.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the veteran’s council, a subordinate body to the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council, retains all rights of sovereign immunity of the Tribe and shall not have the authority to waive the sovereign immunity of the Tribe or any of its officers, agents, attorneys, or employees, or anyone else acting at the direction of and on behalf of the Tribe unless otherwise provided by law.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Tribal Council may remove members from his/her position for “Just Cause” upon the recommendation of three (3) or more of the regular voting members of the board and/or a majority vote of the Tribal Council. “Just Cause” may include, but is not limited to:

1. A conviction of drug-related criminal activity, sex offenses, or capital crimes, and/or falsification of information.
2. A dereliction of duty by missing more than three (3) or more consecutive meetings without being excused by the Chairperson.
3. Disregard of policies or procedures.
4. Public misconduct that reflects poorly upon the Tribe and its members.
5. Violation of applicable Tribal law or policies.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the Chairman of the Tribal Council, or in his absence or unavailability, other Tribal Council Officer, is hereby authorized to take all necessary action to enforce and take such other actions as are reasonable and necessary in furtherance of the execution or performance of this resolution and shall remain in effect.

Effective immediately and until revoked or modified by the Tribal Council, pursuant to the authority vested in the Tribal Council pursuant to Article VI, Section 2.A of the Constitution of the Mashpee Wampanoag. All resolutions or parts of resolutions inconsistent with this resolution are repealed.

## CERTIFICATION

We, the undersigned Chairperson and Secretary of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council do hereby certify that the Tribal Council is composed of 13 members of whom 13, constituting a quorum, were present at a meeting thereof, duly and regularly called, noticed, convened, and held on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of December 2023, and that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the affirmative vote of 12 members, with 0 opposing, and with 0 not voting.

Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023.



Brian M. Weeden, CHAIRMAN  
Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council

ATTEST:



Cassie D. Jackson, SECRETARY  
Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council