

**VETERANS, CEREMONY, AND
PARADE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 10, 2014**

The Veterans, Ceremony and Parade Commission held their Regular Meeting on Monday, March 10, 2014 in the Fowler Memorial Building, 45 New Haven Avenue, Milford. Chairman T. Flowers called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and asked those present to stand for the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. Roll Call

MEMBERS PRESENT

Thomas Flowers, Chairman
Christine Smith, Vice Chairman
Russell Edwards
Christopher Roberts
Gregory Smith

Absent/Excused: Pattie Deer and John Jansen - Excused

GUESTS PRESENT

William Kates, Eric Muth, Joseph Viscount

II. Consideration of Minutes – None.

III. Public Comment/Questions

None.

IV. Chairman's Report:

a) Parades/Ceremonies

Chairman Flowers went to the City Budget Meeting and the Finance Board is proposing to reduce the VCPC Wreaths budget by 5% changing the overall VCPC budget from \$4,800 to \$4,561. This has not yet been approved. It was the recommendation of the VCPC Commission to put in a formal objection to this action due to the increase in the cost for flags due to the poor quality of the previous lot ordered.

b) Building Maintenance

Flag Pole lighting has been fixed.

c) Building Usage

- i. Per Chairman Flowers, Public Works to deliver 1 table and 50 chairs to the Fowler Bldg. on March 11, 2014.

V. Unfinished Business

- a) Chairman Flowers requested a new Recording Secretary for the VCPC, will follow-up with Kathy Huber who is in charge of the official Secretarial Pool for Milford.

VI. New Business

a) Memorial Day Events

- i. A motion made by C. Smith that Former VCPC Chairman W. Kates be our Memorial Day Grand Marshall and Key-Note Speaker, seconded by C. Roberts, motion passed unanimously and W. Kates graciously accepted. His speech will be about Milford's Revolutionary War Veterans.
- ii. Flags on the Graves on May 24, 2014 with an 8:00am pick-up and 8:30am cemetery placement.
- iii. Wreath Laying on May 25, 2014, meeting at 9:45am in front of City Hall at the Dough Boy
- iv. Parade on May 25, 2014, assembling at the Daniel Wasson Parking lot at 1:00pm and stepping off at 2:00pm.
- v. C. Roberts to check prices/vendors for Memorial Day 8"x12" Flags; Flags must be ordered by April 1, 2014; last year we ordered 5,472.
- vi. Chairman Flowers to get two permits: Public Works & Police.
- vii. Advertisement:
 - a. C. Smith to send a Press Release for Press and Dignataries, and an Organization invite to City Hall who has been graciously sending them out.
 - b. Chairman Flowers sent the basic details to Milford Living Magazine and will follow up on the dates.
 - c. G. Smith to set up a Facebook Page for the Memorial Day Event.

b) Johnson Museum

- a. Eric Muth was not able to stay for the meeting due to illness, but he left a statement for Joseph Viscount to relay to the VCPC.
 - i. Milford Citizens donated these items over 30 years ago and Milford has not done anything with them.
- b. Chairman Flowers reported that the materials are now in a secured room and that the Stratford Aerospace Museum Curator has agreed to catalogue the items; they will be meeting this coming week to discuss this.
- c. Chairman Flowers reported that Mayor B. Blake has asked the VCPC for options on where the Johnson Museum can be located. J. Viscount noted that that the location must provide visibility, and public access. Discussion ensued, and the following places were recommended (in no particular order of precedence):
 - i. Milford Library
 - ii. Parson's Complex
 - iii. West Haven Military Museum
 - iv. Stratford Aerospace Museum
 - v. Firehouse on Melba Street
 - vi. Milford Historical Society
- d. G. Smith suggested we ask Mr. Thomas Acri, a West Shore Middle School teacher, if he would consider his next veteran's related fundraiser to go to purchasing cabinets for a possible rotating display.

c) Milford's 375th Anniversary Parade – June 15th at 2:00pm

- a. Paul Piscatelli, Event Chairman, would like major participation from the Milford Veterans community
- b. Brian Anderson submitted a Fowler Building Usage Form, but does not know if it was received. The forms should be sent to C. Smith, but she has not received it. She will look at the form to see what happened. The form must be updated anyway to specify the new VCPC Chairman T. Flowers.

d) Viscount Initiatives

- a. J. Viscount briefly discussed his reasoning behind his rewrite of the VCPC and states that all entries are up for discussion.

e) Residents of the Fowler Building

a. Considered permanent users of the building:

- American Legion Post 34
- VVA Chapter 251
- DAV Chapter 15
- Milford Volunteers Ancient Fife and Drum
- Milford Concert Band

b. Continual Visitors

- American Federation of the Blind
- Alcoholics Anonymous

VII. Good of the Order

a) No Report.

VII. Announcements

a) No Report.

Being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:02pm.

Next meeting will be April 14, 2014 at 7pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine L. Smith
Secretary Pro Tem