

VETERANS, CEREMONY, AND PARADE COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

APRIL 9, 2018

The Veterans, Ceremony, and Parade Commission held their Regular Meeting on Monday, April 9, 2018 in the Fowler Memorial Building, 45 New Haven Avenue, Milford. Chairman Tom Flowers called the meeting to order at 7:00PM and asked those present to stand for the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

MEMBERS PRESENT

Tom Flowers, Chairman
Christine Smith, Vice Chairman
Patti Deer
John (Jack) Jansen
Niles Mackenzie
Greg Smith

ABSENT/EXCUSED

Russell Edwards

GUESTS PRESENT

Wayne Carson

Consideration of Minutes – Minutes for March were distributed, motion by Niles Mackenzie to accept the minutes, seconded by Christine Smith. Passed unanimously.

Public Comments/Questions – n/a

Unfinished Business

- **Memorial Day Parade**
 - **Events** – Saturday, 5/26 at 8:30 AM Flags on Graves, Sunday, 5/27 at 10:00 AM Wreaths at City Hall and Green Monuments, 5/27 at 2:00PM Parade
 - **Advertising and Public Participation**
 - Christine Smith to contact local papers to get more prominent ad, contact High Schools from surrounding areas
 - Tom Flowers to contact JROTC Hill House
 - Niles Mackenzie to try to get the list of participants from the Milford Irish Parade from the Irish Heritage Assoc.
 - Greg Smith and Tom Flowers to speak to the Downtown Business Association
- **Veterans Hall of Honor**
 - New form to be forthcoming that will be made available at the City Clerk's office. Press release will go through the Mayor's office. Greg smith makes a motion, seconded by Christine Smith, that Eric Muth and Joe Viscount will lead the effort on obtaining the veteran's names for inclusion in the Veterans Hall of Honor, with the VCPC would determine the priority starting with Post Vietnam veterans then pre-WWI after that. Passed unanimously

Fowler Building

- **Building Maintenance:**

- Hand Railing – still needs installation. Tom Flowers will contact Public Works
- Fife & Drum Office #4 (3rd floor) – Ceiling crumbling
- Rear Door – No light fixture, need it for visibility
- Dumpster – blocks 1st parking spot, Tom will bring up with Public Works when they come for visit
- Chair racks – blocking the Fife equipment area

- **Building Usage:**

- Tom Flowers has meeting on Wednesday with Chris Saley in the Fowler building to discuss the Coast Guard Auxiliary in the in Fowler Building (need to visit both buildings) and see if it is fit for purpose, as the Mayor would like us to accommodate them here instead of their current location. The Coast Guard Auxiliary would need to have a classroom set up for their seamanship classes, they seem to indicate that approximately 75 people would need access at any given time. We need to more fully understand their usage needs (ie. Full-time access, desk and chairs, office space, equipment storage, etc.). Concerns for building security and admin/classroom/ storage space are a concern. The VCPC is requesting more specifics on their needs
- Milford Speaks Out will use the Fowler Building on May 6th, June 10th, July 8th from 1-4pm on the first floor
- DAV Auxiliary has also requested a series of dates that will be put onto the VCPC calendar

New Business

- **Memorial Day Parade**

- Mayor would like to honor WWII veterans at Memorial Day, and bring them up to the band shell. Mayor has three that will attend. Christine Smith makes a motion to honor WWII Veterans at the Memorial Day Parade, seconded by Pattie Deer. Passed unanimously
- Tom Flowers has contacted the JROTC Hill House for parade and they are all set to attend
- Niles Mackenzie to get Milford Irish parade list
- Meeting scheduled with President of Downtown Milford Business associate about participating in the Memorial day parade
- Request from Governor's 2nd foot guard responded they will be attending
- Flotilla #24 will participate in both wreath laying and parade
- Flags are to be picked up 8am May 26 at Fowler Building
- Marika Mosely is ordering stationary and envelopes, but not in yet. Please submit receipts for supplies purchased

- **4th of July Events**

- Tom Flowers invited the DAR/SAR to attend the April 2018 VCPC meeting to speak about the 4th of July events, but they had a conflict, he spoke with Barbara about the intent of the patriotic events and the sentiments we want to convey. They are to have a meeting with DAR and Barbara will report back on their discussion

Announcements/Good of the Order

- New two-part shingles vaccine at the VA Hospital.

- Tom Flowers will attend a meeting tomorrow with the VA Commissioner on a bill to restore \$2 million from the VA Critical Care budget.
- Mayors and 1st Selectmen in every municipality in the state are requesting for the names of female WWII veterans, re: awarding of military service awards for service during a military conflict; City Clerk Joann Rohrig has the applications (can be posthumously). Pass the word onto the SVO's in Milford.
- Fisher House Dedication Ceremony at the West Haven VA Campus, Friday, May 4. Invitations to Reception and Ribbon Cutting for Fisher House sent to top Department officers in the VSO's.
- Dept. of CT VFW Auxiliary sponsoring a free Movie Night, Saturday, May 12 doors open at 6pm at Post 9929 in West Hartford. Movie is "Taking Chance" starring Kevin Bacon and will be in honor of Memorial Day.
- Saturday, April 14th at 2pm Packing for "Day for a Hospitalized Vet" at the VFW Post 7788

Adjournment

Being no further business to discuss, Christine Smith made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Pattie Deer. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

The next meeting will be May 14 at 7PM at the Fowler Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Smith

Recording Secretary Pro tem