

Veterans, Ceremony, and Parade Commission Regular Meeting

Fowler Memorial Building

45 New Haven Avenue, Milford, CT

Monday, July 11, 2011

Call to Order: Chairman Kates called the meeting to order at 1910 hours. A quorum was present. All present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Roll Call

Commissioners William Kates, Christine Smith, Thomas Flowers, Ellenor Olson, and Russell Edwards. Also present were Bob Chechoski and Wayne Carson.

2. Consideration of Minutes

Chairman Kates read aloud the minutes from the meeting held on June 13, 2011.

Commissioners Edwards and Kates made and seconded a motion to accept the minutes of the June 13, 2011, regular meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

3. New Business

Chairman Kates discussed having a breakdown of the Commission's budget available at the next meeting.

The Chairman opened the floor to any comments or concerns of all present. Mr. Chechoski expressed his concern of the use of the Fowler Memorial Building and grounds during the Milford Oyster Festival by non-veteran groups. Everyone present discussed the necessity of getting in contact with the Oyster Festival Committee to express that the jurisdiction of the Fowler Memorial Building and grounds lies with the Veterans' Commission. The Chairman said he would contact the Oyster Festival Committee.

Commissions Smith and Kates made and seconded a motion to allow all veterans' organizations and other tenants of the Fowler Memorial Building to continue to use the grounds at no charge during the Milford Oyster Festival. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chair Smith informed the Commissioners she had received a request from Boy Scout Pack 712 from Meadowside School for the use of the Fowler Memorial Building on the first Sunday of each month from 6:00 to 9:00 for parents meetings. Chairman Kates suggested granting the use of the building on a conditional basis for August and September, with further review for use of the building from October through December.

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Vice-Chair Smith expressed the need for formal request forms that can be accessed through the City of Milford website. Commissioner Olson informed her that she had copies of the old request forms that may be used as a template.

Commissioner Olson informed the Commissioners that she had received some contributions to the Robert DeForest Johnson Memorial Museum, including a photograph of Ernest Patchen. She expressed her desire for a sign for the museum. Commissioner Olson also informed the Commissioners of the difficulty of the parking in the Fowler lot. Everyone present discussed the need for the signage already posted to be enforced.

Commissioner Olson also discussed the need for public education on flag etiquette. Vice-Chair Smith explained that the Ladies' Auxiliary has in the past put on flag etiquette presentations for Scout groups. Discussion was held about posting a press release around pertinent holidays about flag etiquette.

The Commissioners discussed the recent 4th of July ceremony. Vice-Chair Smith suggested setting up a guideline for each holiday, as the purpose for each of the holidays celebrated is different and the meaning for each should be defined.

The Commissioners all agreed that a walk-through of the Fowler Memorial Building is needed by Mr. Kolwicz of Milford Public Works.

4. Adjournment

Commissioners Edwards and Smith made and seconded a motion to adjourn at 2036 hours. Motion carried unanimously.

Recorded by C. Birney