

**VETERANS, CEREMONY, AND
PARADE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 14, 2015**

The Veterans, Ceremony and Parade Commission held their Regular Meeting on Monday, September 14, 2015 in the Fowler Memorial Building, 45 New Haven Avenue, Milford. Chairman T. Flowers called the meeting to order at 7:06PM 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
Pattie Deer
Russell Edwards
John Jansen

ABSENT/EXCUSED

Christopher Roberts
Gregory Smith

GUESTS PRESENT

Wayne Carson
Ed Monroe

II. Consideration of Minutes – August 10, 2015 Minutes were read. Motion made by P. Deer that the minutes be accepted as distributed, seconded by C. Smith. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Public Comment/Questions – None.

IV. Chairman's Report:

a) Building Maintenance

i. No Report.

b) Building Usage

i. Milford Concert Band

i. Duane Berge, the Band Directory, reported a theft of Concert Band equipment.

Chairman Flowers allowed him to use one of the two vacant offices on the 3rd floor to store their instruments, as the Concert Band is a permanent resident of the building.

ii. Milford Fife and Drum

i. P. Deere also noted the theft of several fifes and other equipment stolen.

ii. She has also reported incidents where the alarm was not set.

iii. D.A.V. and V.V.A.

i. Wayne Carson and R. Edwards also noted stolen flags and other items from their respective groups.

ii. D.A.V.'s cabinets were broke open during the Oyster Festival and items were used/taken.

iv. Security

i. All offices are opened by master keys that open any other office.

ii. Chairman Flowers suggests re-keying all locks and he has the master keys and will distribute them to official residents of the building.

- iii. J. Jansen suggests that we re-key and get a system where each group has a key that opens the main door and only their office, and no others.
 - iv. Chairman Flowers is putting together a workable plan for security.
 - v. Temporary users of the building will be informed of the rules of private property in the building.
- v. City Attorney
 - i. Chairman Flowers asked for some clarification on Paragraph 8 on our Building Usage Form, in light of a request from a permanent resident. He is waiting for their response.
- vi. A.A. will resume their weekly meetings starting the 1st Sunday in October 9-10am thru April 2016.

V. Unfinished Business

a) Home Depot Project For Vet in Need

- i. P. Deer submitted the only candidate, Mr. Frances D'Amico, a 70% service connected disabled veteran. The Home Depot in Orange will provide all supplies and volunteer work for free. Veteran has roof, chimney and gutter issues.
- ii. Motion made by R. Edwards, seconded by J. Jansen to submit the candidate to Home Depot. Motion passed unanimously.
- iii. Chairman Flowers will give call Dave Amendola from Home Depot and provide him with the veteran's contact info.

b) Veterans Day Parade/Ceremonies

- i. Dates/Times of the official activities (subject to change given West Point Black Knights):
 - i. November 8 – 12pm CPL Jordan Pierson Dedication, 2:00pm parade
 - ii. November 11 – 11am Wreath Laying Ceremony
- ii. R. Edwards informed the committee that a Shelton unicycle group wanted to participate, but they did not email him, so he has no contact for them. He also had two vets that needed a ride. Chairman Flowers reiterated that the Grand Marshall and Key-Note Speaker(s) ride in the convertible. If there are veterans that are unable to walk, perhaps they can ride with the D.A.V. in their vans.
- iii. Last month Joe Viscount invited the Lady Huskies to march, but they are unable to attend. He also invited the Hill House JROTC (75+ members) and they will march in the parade. J. Viscount has also invited the West Point Black Knights Parachute Team to jump prior to the parade at approximately 12pm. If they can, it will affect the CPL Pierson Dedication.
- iv. Chairman Flowers is trying to contact Medal of Honor Recipient (1970) Paul Bucha (also an Advisor to President Clinton and a West Point Graduate), to be our Grand Marshal and Key-note Speaker. He left messages on behalf of Mayor Blake and the VCPC, but have not heard any response yet. If so, Mayor will be prepared for any security issues for the MoH recipient.

c) Milford's Military Hall of Honor

- i. D.A.V. members have questions about monies received and the official city accounts to accept the monies.
- ii. Chairman Flowers noted that the official city account has been created and donations should be made out to "City of Milford – Hall of Honor".
- iii. Chairman Flowers to write a Press Release to solicit funds for the Hall of Honor, approved by Mayor Blake. He asks that we also think about other ways to raise funds, such as, selling bricks, or a plaque in the Hall of Honor of donors, etc.

VI. New Business

- a) C. Smith will create a Milford Celebrates Veterans Day Facebook page with new event each year for the parade, etc. Requests members to send to everyone on their friends list.

VII. Good of the Order

- a. VFW 7788 Picnic Grounds - Oct 4 11-6pm Family Outing in honor of Paul Licinsky \$20/pp
- b. Concern about Richard Shea as he normally attends VCPC meetings, but he has not attended for a couple months. P. Deere will attempt to contact him.
- c. American Legion Fisher House Project – Chairman Flowers gave an update on the Fisher House site on Campbell Avenue. The VA will send out a Press Release to inform the public on the progress of the project.

VIII. Possible Agenda Topics

None.

IX. Announcements

Being no further business to discuss, C. Smith made a motion to adjourn, seconded by P. Deere. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:23PM.

Next meeting will be October 12, 2015 at 7PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine L. Smith
Secretary Pro Tem