

Veterans, Ceremony, and Parade Commission Regular Meeting

Fowler Memorial Building

45 New Haven Avenue, Milford, CT

Monday, October 10, 2011

Call to Order: Chairman Kates called the meeting to order at 1906 hours. A quorum was present. All present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Roll Call

Commissioners William Kates, Christine Smith, Christopher Roberts, and Thomas Flowers were present. Also present were Alderman Bill Bevan and Wayne Carson. Alderman Chairman Greg Smith made a brief appearance.

2. Consideration of Minutes

Commissioners Flowers and Roberts made and seconded a motion to accept the minutes of the August 8, 2011, regular meeting as posted. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Public Comments/Questions

Alderman Bevan informed the commission that the Public Comments section was not required. Chairman Kates acknowledged, but would like to continue to allow until it becomes an issue.

4. Old Business

a. New Building Request Form

Vice-Chair Smith made the suggested changes based on feedback from previous meeting and what was received by the Asst. City Attorney Debra Kelly. Further discussion with the commission resulted in additional questions for the Asst. City Attorney for questions #8 & #9 of the Fowler Building Usage Rules and the corrections will be voted on at our next meeting.

b. Parking/Building Maintenance Use

Chairman Kates will make a prioritized list of repairs and other issues, such as security, keys (need new ones for front/back doors – same key). Alderman Bevin stated that when the list of repairs has been finalized an official letter should be sent to start the process. Commissioner Roberts forwarded a request for tenants to install their own locks on doors, but that is not allowed due to union regulations. Further discussion regarding what are the needed repairs/issues was tabled for a future meeting.

c. Veteran' Graves Preservation Commission

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Chairman Kates is not in favor of this at this time as he believes it is more than the board can handle given that the VCPC has no expertise in this area. The members of the Veteran's Graves Preservation Commission are of the same conclusion, but may reconsider sometime in the future.

5. New Business

a. Request Use of Building Oct. 15th

The Chairman informed the Commissioners he had received a request from Maria Tomasetti to use the basement of the Fowler Memorial Building on October 16th for the walk for the benefit of the Beth-El Center and that permission had been granted.

Rich McGaffman with the National Federation of the Blind, whose group normally meets on the 3rd Saturday of the month, requests usage of the building on December 4th, 2011 (the first Saturday). Chairman Kates granted permission.

b. Veteran's Day Parade

Vice-Chair Smith sent the letter invites and the press release to the Mayor's office for dissemination to the dignitaries, veteran's and other organizations and will bring the list of invitees to be reviewed by the board at the next meeting. She would also like to invite Bob Gregory to the next meeting to discuss the process of event invitations and to present any bills for the Veteran's Day Parade invites.

Vice-Chair Smith will send a letter to Dr. Linda Schwartz, Commissioner of the CT Department of Veteran's Affairs to be the key-note speaker at the parade. Wayne Carson suggests an organized line-up for the parade with each of the veteran's groups (5) in charge of one of the four divisions.

Commissioner Flowers and the American Legion Post 196 will be there with color bearers, Commissioner Roberts and the DAV Chapter 15 and Post 34 will also be in attendance.

c. Storage Space

Commissioner Roberts forwarded a request from the DAV for temporary storage space for the uniforms. Wayne Carson of Post 34 has some space and asked that Eric Muth contact him regarding it. There was an additional request of an air conditioner for the space due to the summer heat and humidity and the detrimental effect to the uniforms. Chairman Kates will bring the request for an AC to the city building maintenance unit.

d. Furniture Donation

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Commissioner Roberts informed the commission that the DAV can get a donation Bob's Furniture to replace the chair and couch in the downstairs hall. He will contact Russ Edwards with the VVA who own the chair and couch for permission.

6. Announcements/ Good of the Group Info.

Next meeting will be November 14, 2011 at 7pm.

7. Adjournment

Vice-Chair Smith and commissioner Flowers made and seconded a motion to adjourn at 2001 hours. Motion carried unanimously.

Recorded by Vice-Chairman C. Smith