**Veterans, Ceremony and Parade Commission Regular Meeting**

**June 15, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

**Opening:** The Veterans, Ceremony and Parade Commission held their Regular Meeting on Tuesday June 15, 2021 in the Fowler Memorial Building, 45 New Haven Avenue, Tom Flowers called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and asked those present to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call**:

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Tom Flowers - Chairman

Mike Kupson

Vincent Zelinsky

John (Jack) Jansen

Frank Rodriguez

Emily Sopchak (via telephone)

**ABSENT/EXCUSED**:

Pattie Deer

**GUESTS**:

Wayne Carson

Diane Zelinsky –recording secretary -– VIA Teleconference

**Agenda**: Open Agenda

**Consideration of Minutes** –Motion was made by Mike Kupson and 2nd by Frank Rodriguez to accept the minutes from the May 10, 2021 meeting.

**A quorum was present for tonight’s meeting.**

**Old Business:**

Tom reported that the press release regarding the solicitation of names for display in The Veterans Hall of Honor is still pending with the Mayor.

Frank Rodriguez went before the Board of Alderman and is now an official sworn in member of the VCPC representing the VVA.

The Memorial Day events went as well as could be expected given the weather that weekend.

**New Business:**

The Milford Bank’s Milford Moves for Veterans will take place on Father’s Day June 20, 2021. Each VSO should have about 5 volunteers as a total of 20 have been requested from the VCPC. The event will begin and end at Lisman Landing and volunteers are asked to be there at 7AM.

Discussion moved to a review of each VSO’s 2020 to current 2021 donation status. Each representative provided this information to the Commission members present.

The discussion then turned to the distribution of funds from the proceeds of the event. In the past it had been percentage based but not an equal percentage across the then 4 VSO’s. With the addition of the CVMA, now a fully participating VSO in Milford since late 2019, a change in distribution is now required.

Frank Rodriguez, being the newest member, stated that he was too new to offer an opinion but suggested that a more equal distribution be considered.

A motion was made by Jack Jansen to now split the donation proceeds from The Milford Moves for Veterans equally among the 5 VSO’s of record. Vincent Zelinsky second that motion.

Mike Kupson offered additional discussion that although in the past the DAV had received a different percentage of the proceeds than the other 3 VSO’s all have proven to be meeting the criteria of the mission which is to support Veterans in the community and to their national organizations.

Tom called for a vote on the motion and it was passed all in favor none opposed. Starting with the 2021 proceeds from the event each of the 5 VSO’s will received an equal distribution.

Mike Kupson asked Tom Flowers if there were any plans for July 4th. Tom indicated that there are no official events planned but did offer that given the current and improving COVID situation he fully intends to start planning for a Veterans Day Parade this November.

**For the Good of the Order**:

The Milford Summer concert series will return starting Friday, June 18th at 7pm. The Milford Concert Band will be performing under the Pavilion.

Motion was made to adjourn by Jack Jansen and 2nd by Frank Rodriguez

**Meeting adjourned at**: 8:15 pm

Respectfully Submitted by

Diane Zelinsky

Recording Secretary