

VETERANS, CEREMONY AND PARADE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 11, 2014

The Veterans, Ceremony and Parade Commission held their Regular Meeting on Monday, August 11, 2014 in the Fowler Memorial Building, 45 New Haven Avenue, Milford. Chairman T. Flowers called the meeting to order at 7:05PM 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
Christopher Roberts
Gregory Smith
Russell Edwards
Pattie Deer

ABSENT/EXCUSED

John Jansen

GUESTS PRESENT

Wayne Carson
William Kates

II. Consideration of Minutes

Motion by G. Smith to accept the minutes from July 14, 2014 as mailed; seconded by C. Smith.

III. Public Comments/Questions

None.

IV. Chairman's Report

- a) Flag Ceremony – T. Flowers attended a flag ceremony by the Connecticut Patriot Guard for Corporal Jordan Pierson at Corporal Jordan Pierson Park. Corporal Pierson's parents, along with friends, family, neighbors and the Mayor, were in attendance.
- b) Memorial Day Parade 2015 – a granite memorial stone, with Corporal Pierson's name etched on it, will be placed at the Memorial Flagpole. His parents will be in attendance.
- c) VCPC Ordinance – T. Flowers received a letter from the Mayor on July 24, 2014 regarding VCPC's ordinance. The Mayor has authorized the VCPC to take responsibility for the maintenance of the Veterans Memorials along the Milford Green and throughout the city in coordination with the Department of Public Works. No change in ordinance required.
- d) Founders Walk – Architectural landscape designer has been selected. Contract has not been executed as of yet. Working capital of \$550K approved: \$300K State grant and \$250K from the City. Final design expected in January; project to be completed in the spring of 2015.

V. Unfinished Business

- a) Facebook – G. Smith discussed the creation of a VCPC Facebook page. Solicit seasonal photographs, from the community, of Milford for use as a header on the page. Event page to be live by Labor Day for Veterans Day activities.
- b) Veterans Day Parade – The VCPC will continue to work with the 375th Committee as discussed at last month's meeting. Suggestions for a Grand Marshal and guest speaker were discussed. VCPC

suggested R. Edwards be Grand Marshal; he will consider and advise his decision prior to the September meeting. A guest speaker will need to be determined.

- c) Plaque Donation for the Vestibule of Veterans Memorial Auditorium – The criteria/legal definition of a war veteran/veteran, along with how to compile a complete listing of names for inclusion on the plaques, was discussed. The Committee's preliminary recommendation to the Mayor is that from WW I going forward, the plaques be brought up to date with veterans as currently defined by official State statutes. Research on pre WW I veterans continues.
- d) Access to Veterans Memorial Auditorium – The Auditorium is not open to the public except for special events. Discussed ways to make Auditorium open to public.
- e) Parades - C. Smith would like to compile an updated list for parade invitees; obtain the 375th Commission list, which is extensive. C. Roberts recommended locating military hardware for use at parades.

VI. New Business

VII. Announcements / Good of the Order

VIII. Possible Agenda Topics

- a) Ideas for the Veterans Memorial Auditorium
- b) Veterans Parade Grand Marshal and speaker

IX. Announcements

- a) Oyster Festival – T. Flowers to email Oyster Festival Committee to confirm their needs/usage of the building during the Oyster Festival. There has been no communication and/or requests to date.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:37PM by C. Roberts; seconded by G. Smith.

Next meeting will be September 8, 2014 at 7PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Durner
Recording Secretary