

Veterans, Ceremony, and Parade Commission Regular Meeting

Fowler Memorial Building

45 New Haven Avenue, Milford, CT

Monday, September 12, 2011

Call to Order: Chairman Kates called the meeting to order at 1910 hours. There was no quorum present. All present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Roll Call

Commissioners William Kates, Christine Smith, Russell Edwards, and Ellenor Olson. Also present was Wayne Carson.

2. Consideration of Minutes

Recording Secretary Colleen Birney read the minutes of the August 8th meeting to the Commissioners.

Vice-Chair Smith noted a correction on Item 6 was required, changing it to 7788 VFW. Chairman Kates said they need to table the vote on the minutes until the next meeting.

3. Public Comments/Questions

None.

4. Old Business

a. New Building Request Form

Chairman Kates said he had asked Vice-Chair Smith to draft an updated form and to include the hold harmless and proof of insurance clauses. Vice-Chair Smith noted that she would place the clauses at the bottom of the request form. She inquired how proof of insurance can be shown; she said she would contact the Milford City Attorney to find out the best way to include these clauses.

b. Repair List

Chairman Kates informed all present that Mr. Kolwicz stated he wasn't in receipt of the repair list created by the prior Fowler Commission. Vice-Chair Smith noted that in addition to the repair list, there seemed to be a mouse problem in the Fowler Building. Commissioner Edwards said this problem has been dealt with and there is no longer any food being stored in the building. The Commissioners began compiling a current list of needed repairs.

c. Cannon

Chairman Kates stated for any cannon or military hardware, it is up to a specific group to sponsor the retention of it, and are then responsible for any maintenance

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needed. Commissioner Ollsen suggested placing this item on the agenda for the following month for discussion.

5. New Business

a. Veterans Day Parade & Ceremony

The Chairman informed all present that the Veterans Day Parade would be held on November 6, 2011; step-off time would be at 2:00. Vice-Chair Smith stated she would bring a sample press release to the next meeting for approval to submit to the newspapers. Chairman Kates noted invitations needed to be sent out.

All present discussed when the decoration of the Veterans monuments in Milford should be done, either on November 6th or November 11th. Chairman Kates suggested tabling this issue to the next meeting.

6. Announcements

Commissioner Ollsen informed all present that the Johnson Museum has been in operation since June. She stated the lock for the museum is not working. She added that to run the museum required public support and money, and that at this time, there is a small chance funds can be generated. Commissioner Ollsen also stated that she feels a responsibility to the Veterans and families who have donated their decorations and uniforms. She suggested the Johnson Museum be closed and the items donated to another museum.

Chairman Kates suggested Commissioner Ollsen contact all those who have contributed to the museum and explain the situation. Vice-Chair Smith suggested talking about this issue at the next meeting.

Commissioner Edwards informed all present that Commissioner Flowers is in talks with Smith Funeral Home, and a representative from the home would like to make a presentation at the next meeting regarding what will be placed on the Veterans gravestones.

7. Adjournment

Chairman Kates adjourned the meeting at 2021 hours.

Recorded by C. Birney