

**TOWN OF BOLTON
VETERANS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING **MINUTES**
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2023, 1:30 P.M.**

Present: Kathy Walsh, Jim Clark, Paul Toomey, Ernie Richardson and Gregory Carini.
Others present: Suellen Kamara, Robert Morra and Lance Dimock.
Not present: Barry Stearns and Alexander Dumas.

1. Call to Order.

K. Walsh called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes:

- a. January 5, 2022 – Regular Meeting Minutes.

Action: K. Walsh would like to add actions to the minutes.

Motion: I move that the Veterans Commission approve the minutes.

By: K. Walsh

Seconded: P. Toomey

Voting: Kathy Walsh, Jim Clark, Paul Toomey, Ernie Richardson and Gregory Carini.

Against: None

Absent: Two.

Movement of agenda items.

4. Update on the change of Street Name.

Lance would like to understand what the members want for the signage. R. Morra said that the board of selectmen thinks that instead of an artificial street sign, the signage needs to be unique. Lance stated that in order to be unique, the sign should be blue and double-sided. P. Toomey stated that the sign shouldn't have any apostrophes.

Actions: Lance will get the order by the end of the week, and it will take 4 to 6 weeks to arrive.

Motion: I move that the Veterans Commission decide on a blue, double-sided sign with a capital "V" and lowercase "eterans" letters, as well as a capital "W" and lowercase "ay" letters.

By: P. Toomey

Seconded: J. Clark

Voting: Kathy Walsh, Jim Clark, Paul Toomey, Ernie Richardson and Gregory Carini.

Against: None

Absent: Two.

3. Review of submitted Next Year's Budget.

No action was taken.

5. Update on the request for Veterans Tax Relief.

There is no update on the follow-up letter that B. Stearns sent to the Board of Selectmen. B. Morra said that the selectmen will have a subcommittee meeting after the budget season to talk about that additional information. He also shared that if any action is taken, it may be through a program, and the increases will be partial.

Action: K. Walsh will email B. Stearns with this information.

6. Name and Dedication of Bench.

K. Walsh shared information and prices for the plaque's bench that B. Stearns provided. B. Morra commented that if the commission wants a plaque that no one is going to take, it is better to go with cast aluminum. K. Walsh shared that she emailed John Butrymovich to take the bushes out, and he will do it as soon as it warms up.

Motion: I move that the Veterans Commission decide that the bench record is going to be:

In Memory of
Staff Sergeant Michael Clark
U.S ARMY

By: K. Walsh

Seconded: J. Clark

Voting: Kathy Walsh, Jim Clark, Paul Toomey, Ernie Richardson and Gregory Carini.

Against: None

Absent: Two.

7. Memorial Day Parade Coordination.

K. Walsh updated that B. Stearns went to talk with Kristen Heckt to discuss school participation in the parade. K. Walsh also talked to Bruce Dixon; they can use the firehouse if there is unexpected weather, and the fire department will take care of closing the road with the state police. K. Walsh talked to Chris Duff, and they will be taking their place in the parade. The commission just needs to verify the flags; K. Walsh emailed John, and he will order the flags. B. Morra stated that the commission also needs space force flags.

Actions: B. Morra will contact John Toomey. Walsh will email the church to ask about the pastor. The commission will ask B. Stearns if he wants to be the MC, and if he doesn't, B. Morra will be a backup. The commission will contact at least two veterans and ask them if they want to be part of the parade on one of the town's cars; this discussion will continue at the next meeting. P. Sawyer will be responsible for filling out the form for the General's Office and sending it over to Washington, D.C. The commission still needs to identify the person responsible for lining up the parade.

Movement of agenda items.

9. Medallions for Cemeteries.

K. Walsh talked to Chris Duff, and the boy scouts supposedly are done with the Bolton Center Cemetery, but they are still in the process of putting everything together, and by the next meeting, the commission should know how many veterans are in both cemeteries. K. Walsh had some questions about the mailing out of the request for donations in the tax bills, and B. Morra explained that if there are donations, they will be separated from the taxes. And also, there are other ways to request these donations, such as through the town bulletin or a press release.

8. CT General Statutes Review regarding Veterans Commission.

K. Walsh read the CT general statutes and asked B. Morra where the commission is in these general statutes. K. Walsh commented that Manchester has two employers that take care of the veteran's projects in town, and they also have an advisory committee, but they are on this committee too. B. Morra said that Liz Waters is the person in town responsible for things listed on the general statutes, and the Bolton Veterans Commission is an advisory to Liz Waters.

Action: B. Morra will talk with the town attorney about it.

10. Other.

K. Walsh commented that the commission needs to come up with a system to figure out where the disposal box's flag is going to be and what they need to do after they have enough flags. J. Clark commented that years ago, the town used to have a ceremony to burn those flags; this can be an idea. The commission believes that the build of the box is a potential project for the boy scouts.

Action: K. Walsh will email Chris Duff with some models of boxes and also ask him if there is someone who would be willing to build a box for the disposal of the flags.

11. Adjournment.

The Veterans Commission was adjourned at 2:32 p.m. by K. Walsh.

Respectfully Submitted,

Suellen Kamara

Please see minutes of subsequent meetings for corrections to these minutes and any corrections hereto.

MDSOLUTIONS

QUOTE#:
BOLTON

WIDTH: 36"

HEIGHT: 9"

MATERIAL: HIP

EXTRUDED

BLUEWHITE

Veterans Way

QTY 2



Bench Dedication

This is the one we voted on:

In Memory of
Staff Sergeant Michael Clark
U. S. Army

This is what the family wants:

In Memory of MSgt Michael D. Clark
1/19/81-7/20/22
Husband-Father-Patriot