

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

Present: Kathy Walsh, Paul Toomey, Ernie Richardson and Gregory Carini.
Not present: Barry Stearns, Jim Clark and Alexander Dumas.

1. Call to Order.

K. Walsh called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes:

a. February 2, 2022 – Regular Meeting Minutes.

Motion: I move that the Veterans Commission approve the minutes by P. Toomey.

By: P. Toomey

Seconded: E. Richardson

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

Against: 0

Absent: 3

3. Update on the Street Naming Sign

Lance has ordered the double-sided signs. It will take 4-6 weeks for the sign to be completed after ordering. A sample of the sign was passed around for committee to see. The street signs came in and we need to decide if we want them placed now.

Motion: Have Lance install the Veterans way sign now.

By: K. Walsh

Second: G. Carini

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

Against: 0

Absent: 3

Actions: K. Walsh will notify Lance.

4. Name and Dedication of Bench

There is in the packet the recommendation that the family has made for the plaque. This plaque update was sent to B. Stearns. Please review what the family has requested. All members present felt we should put on the plaque the families wording.

Motion: It is agreed that we will place on the plaque what the family has requested.

By: K. Walsh

Seconded: P. Toomey

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

Against: 0

Absent: 3

Action: K Walsh will send to B. Stearns for quote.

5. Memorial Day Parade Coordination

The Pastor of the Congregational Church has been e-mailed regarding the prayers on Memorial Day.

Military Fly Over has been requested by P. Sawyer and K. Walsh. It has been mailed to the Pentagon. that if any action is taken, it may be through a program, and the increases may be partial.

Girl Scout Coordinator has been contacted by K. Walsh. Boy Scouts is C. Duffy. He was also contacted.

Clarification of the Space Force Flag of action to make sure it is ordered for the Memorial Day Parade. K. Walsh has put together a binder regarding the parade coordination so it can be passed on to whoever will coordinate the parade.

Volunteers were requested to take charge if the committee wants to have Veterans riding in the parade. At this time no volunteers.

State Resident Trooper has been attempted to be contacted with calls to the Troop K and e-mail sent. No response. We still need to determine the line-up for the parade.

Action: K. Walsh will stop in and speak with Pastor Brandon and try to clarify who orders the Space Force Flag. K. Walsh will attempt to contact Resident Trooper again.

6. Update of the Cemetery Review

K. Walsh reported that the Boy Scouts have completed the Bolton Center Cemetery Review. There are 162 Veterans in that cemetery. This brings the total number of medallions to 164 for both. The list of Veterans has been placed in the binder for the Bolton Center Cemetery. No pictures have been sent yet.

Discussion regarding what are next steps ensued regarding Medallions and the way to raise money for them. This means if we purchase Medallions, it will be \$4-6000 + depending on whether we purchase aluminum or plastic. A picture of a medallion for Veterans was passed around.

K. Walsh brought up that the federal govt. has a program to send medallions to service members if applied for by family. This may be the support that we offer by having forms to complete in the Town Hall for families. The discharge paperwork is required for everyone. It was discussed that maybe if you have a Veteran in your family we can complete the paperwork and see how long it takes. Discussion from all committee member is to defer this and rediscuss later due to the cost. It will be very hard to raise this amount of money at this time.

Actions: Defer for discussion.

7. Flag Box and System

K. Walsh contacted C. Duffy regarding the idea of having a flag box made for the Town Hall and a system for disposal. He thought it a great idea and will discuss with the Boy Scouts. Several samples were sent to C. Duffy that were found online. A sample of a flag box made by Boy Scouts and found in their news was passed around.

Actions: Check with C. Duffy to see where we stand with this if we do not hear back by the next meeting.

8.CT. General Statutes regarding the Veterans Commission

There is no update on this from B. Morra yet. If no response, we will e-mail to find out if there is an update after the next meeting.

Action: This is in the Selectmen's hands now.

9. Tax Relief Update

There is not an update currently. Waiting until after Budget season to have sub-committee initiated. This is in the Selectmen's per view now.

Action: B. Stearns may have an update at the next meeting But this is in Selectmen's hands.

10. Discussion regarding Education for Committee

At this time the commission felt we have enough projects on the table and there was not a need to add education right now.

10. Other

Informational- P. Sawyer is working on a Press Release regarding the naming of Veterans Way. K. Walsh asked for any additional agenda items: No additional items were brought forth.

11. Adjournment.

The Veterans Commission was adjourned at 1:50pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Walsh

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