

**TOWN OF BOLTON
VETERANS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING- MINUTES
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2023, 1:30 P.M.**

Present: Kathy Walsh, Paul Toomey, Ernie Richardson, Gregory Carini, Barry Stearns.
Others present: Suellen Kamara, Pam Sawyer, and Josh Hull.
Not present: Jim Clark and Alexander Dumas.

1. Call to Order.

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

2. Approval of Minutes:

a. June 1, 2023 – Regular Meeting Minutes.

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

By: E. Richardson

Seconded: P. Toomey

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

Against: None

Absent: Two.

3. Update on Plaque and Dedication of Bench.

The plaque has been installed for a few weeks now, and the commission is looking into planning a ceremony for the family and friends on Memorial Day next year. The commission will discuss this at their next meeting. **Action: P. Sawyer will contact the family for these wishes for the dedication of the bench, Report at the next meeting.**

4. Tax Relief Update.

P. Sawyer gave the update that some discussions occurred at the Board of Selectmen meeting, and it was decided that the taxpayers would vote for the veteran's tax relief at the next referendum. P. Sawyer also said that if the commission would like more updates, they can ask for an item on the agenda for the Board of Selectmen meetings.

Action: K. Walsh will email Bob Morra and B. Stearns will review this.

5. CT. General Statutes.

K. Walsh stated that Bob Morra was going to talk to the town lawyer but never heard back.

Action: K. Walsh will email him again.

6. Flag Box.

K. Walsh emailed Chris Duffy about the flag box but hasn't received any response yet.

Action: K. Walsh will check again with C. Duffy.

7. Review Letter for Election of Chair/Vice Chair

Liz Waters, the Town Clerk, explained that due to the commission's recent formation, they don't have to elect a new chair or vice chair until July 2024.

8. Memorial Day Parade Coordination

A task list was distributed to all members to review. K. Walsh said for the next Memorial Day celebration, it would be better if the commission spearheads a meeting in February 2024 with the leaderships of the town departments to go over the task list.

Movement of the agenda items

11. Other

K. Walsh told the veterans that Alexander Dumas had resigned due to moving away. P. Sawyer said that he needs to email hr@boltonct.gov a resignation letter. B. Stearns stated that once the resignation letter is submitted to the town hall, the commission should put an advertisement saying they are looking for a new member on the town media. **Action:** K. Walsh will email A. Dumas, and G. Carini will approach a possible new member.

The Senior Center will have its annual Veterans' Luncheon, and they would like to have a town veteran speak at the event; the commission will look for someone. **Action:** G. Carini will approach L. Rudolph.

9. Medallions for Cemetery

The commission talked about the possibility of holding a fundraiser to raise money for the cemetery's medallions. K. Walsh reminded them of the cost of metal medallions, which will be around \$7,000, and plastic medallions, which are just a thousand dollars cheaper. The veterans will talk more about it in their following meetings.

10. Review of Monuments on the Green/ Report from Sub-Committee

P. Sawyer shared with the committee that she would like to place two more monuments on the town green. K. Walsh shared that next to the cemetery there is a monument; she also shared pictures. G. Carini believes that placing another monument at the Town Green will be cheaper than buying the flags. The commission will explore this idea more. **Action:** G. Carini and B. Stearns offered to look at the monument cost for the next meeting.

11. Other

K. Walsh reminded the commission that the Fire Department will have its annual 9/11 ceremony on Monday, September 11, at 6:30 p.m. at the Fire Department.

Motion: I move that the Veterans Commission decide to change their meeting time to 9:30 a.m., starting with their next meeting on Thursday, October 5, 2023.

By: G. Carini.

Seconded: P. Toomey

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

Against: None

Absent: Two.

12. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:27 p.m. by B. Stearns.

Respectfully Submitted,
Suellen Kamara.