

**TOWN OF BOLTON  
VETERANS COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING - MINUTES  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2023, 9:30 A.M.**

Present: Kathy Walsh, Paul Toomey, Gregory Carini, Linda Rudolph, Alexander Dumas, and Barry Stearns.

Others present: Suellen Kamara and Bob Morra

Not present: Ernie Richardson and Jim Clark

1. **Call to Order**

K. Walsh called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

2. **Approval Minutes**

- a. September 7, 2023 – Regular Meeting Minutes
- b. October 5, 2023 – Regular Minutes

Kathy Walsh put forward a motion to approve the September and October meeting minutes.

**Motion:** A motion to approve the meeting minutes from September and October.

**1<sup>st</sup> Moved:** Barry Stearns

**2<sup>nd</sup> moved:** Gregory Carini

**Against:** None

**Absent:** Two.

3. **Tax Relief Update**

Bob Morra informed the commission that the new Board of Selectmen will decide whether tax relief will occur. The effect on the tax revenue will be smaller than originally anticipated because the numbers of exemptions are actually less than previously reported. These numbers will be reworked by B. Morra and the Assessor's office. The exact numbers will be looked at the next meeting so the next Board of Selectmen will have the whole picture.

**Action:** B. Morra should have information to report by January 2024. The commission will start preparing a proposal to the new Board of Selectmen to support the tax relief.

4. **CT. General Statutes**

Bob Morra was unable to meet the town attorney prior to the meeting.

He will try to meet with the town attorney before the next commission meeting.

**Action:** Bob Morra will be meeting with the attorney soon and will give the commission an update on the current Statutes.

5. **Flag Box**

Kathy Walsh emailed Chris Duffy again and received a response. Chris informed Kathy that the Boy Scout's photos of veteran tombstones were accidentally deleted. Question is should the Boy Scout's retake photos of the various tombstones. The committee talked and decided that since there already is a list of tombstones there is no need for the

pictures. As for the Flag Box, two Eagle Scouts can work on the project as their Eagle Project. Another option is getting a mailbox from the Manchester Post Office. Manchester will be disposing of a mailbox that would be perfect for the Flag Box. If the committee were to obtain the mailbox from Manchester, the Eagle Scouts could paint/fix up the mailbox. A question was raised on how the Town deals with old flags, Suellen had no answer. She will reach out to the Facilities Director to find out how the Town handles retired flags. The committee will also need to decide whether the flag box should where the flag box should be located in the next few meetings.

**Action:** Paul Toomey will inform the committee about the mailbox in Manchester. Suellen to reach out to the Public Facilities Director about retired flags.

#### 6. **Review of Monument on Green/Report from Sub-Committee**

Linda Randolph informed the commission that the United States has been involved with 12 major wars. The total number of wars and major skirmishes is 125, while the number of major wars was 12. The 12 major wars are the following: Vietnam, Afghanistan, Kuwait, Iraq, WWII, Korea, WWI, War of 1812, Civil War, Revolutionary War, Spanish American War, and Mexican American War. The three wars not mentioned currently are the Revolutionary War, Civil War, and War of 1812. If the commission were to go with having a stone mentioning the three wars will cost between 5 to 7 thousand dollars. Bob Morra said one possible way to fund this monument would be to use money from the cemetery maintenance money. However, that would have to be a Board of Selectmen decision, not a Veterans commission decision. There are a few other methods such as doing a simple plaque but will need to be decide by the commission later and obtaining a stone..

**Action:** Commission members will look at various ways to reduce the overall cost of installing a new memorial. B. Stearn will get price on the brass plaque.

#### 7. **Annual Report**

Kathy Walsh asked the commission to read and look over the annual report. No suggestions or edits were proposed by commission members. Kathy will be sending an electronic copy of the annual report to Suellen. Kathy Walsh asked that the commission make a motion to approve the annual report.

**Motion:** To approve the Annual Report for the Veteran's Commission.

**1<sup>st</sup> moved:** Barry Stearns

**2<sup>nd</sup> moved:** Paul Toomey

**Against:** None

**Absent:** Two.

**Action:** Kathy Walsh will send Suellen the Annual Report.

#### 8. **Veterans Day Luncheon at Senior Center**

Commission members were asked to reach out prior to going to the Veterans Day Luncheon. Bob Morra informed the commission that the Center School has a Veterans Day Program, where the students thank veterans.

**Action:** Commission will reach out to the school.

9. **Other**

a. Any new Agenda Items

An update on the bench, the commission was asked to dedicate the bench next September on the 20<sup>th</sup> and time at 4pm. This date was asked for because it is in the middle of Medical Technicians Week. This will need to be discussed by the commission later. The commission will also need to decide when to meet in the new year. The commission discussed and decided the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday at 9:30 a.m. every month. A motion was put forth to make the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday the meeting date.

**Motion:** The Commission adopted the first Thursday of each month and the second Thursday in July at 9:30 a.m. as their meeting dates for 2024.

January 4, 2024,  
February 1, 2024,  
March 7, 2024,  
April 4, 2024,  
May 2, 2024,  
June 6, 2024,  
July 11, 2024,  
August 1, 2024,  
September 5, 2024,  
October 3, 2024,  
November 7, 2024,  
December 5, 2024.

**1<sup>st</sup> moved:** K. Walsh  
**Against:** None

**2<sup>nd</sup> moved:** B. Stearns  
**Absent:** Two.

10. **Adjourn**

Kathy Walsh put forward a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**Motion:** A motion proposed to adjourn the Veterans' Committee was made.

**1<sup>st</sup> moved:** Barry Stearns

**2<sup>nd</sup> moved:** Paul Toomey

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 A.M., and the next meeting on December 7 at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Josh Hull*