

Tinley Park Veterans Commission
Minutes of the April 12, 2017 Meeting

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 1900 hrs.

P=Present – E=Excused – A=Absent

P- Wiley Roberts – Chairman
E- Kevin Suggs – Liaison Trustee
E- Pat Carr - Liaison
P- Tony Castillo –Vice-Chairman
P- Norm Pestlin –Secretary
P- Colleen Simon
P- Bruce Lorence
P- Robert Baisa
P- Doug Rasmussen
P- Bill Minnich KWVA, MOPH

P- Fred Cagle – Cmdr. VFW Post 2791
P- Bill McNellis– Cmdr. American Legion
P- Jack Morley
P- Arlene Morley
A- Ken Wrezzes
E- Jim Wilkins - US Submarine Veterans
P- Eva Reyes-Seitz – AVMRA
P- Chris Hansley
P- Don Tomich MCL
E-Tom Kens

Corrections/additions to minutes of the last meeting:

A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the minutes of the previous meeting as published.

Remarks by Trustee Liaison

The Commission wishes to extend its gratitude to Trustee Suggs for his support and dedication as our trustee liaison.

Static Display for Veterans Parkway:

The paperwork for the F-86 requested by the Air Force has been turned over to the Village and we are still waiting to hear from TACOM on the availability of equipment.

Education in Art in Public Buildings:

Doug reported that the bronze plaque for Andrew HS is being cast and will be delivered to the H.S. when it is complete. A dedication ceremony can be set up after that.

Memorial Flag and Citation:

We have enough flag requests to carry us to May of next year if we just fly one per month. A motion was made and passed to fly the memorial flags at the American Legion and the VFW in addition to the train station. We will turn the names of the deceased honorees and the location of their flag over to the Village each month for publication.

Discover Tinley – Sat., April 8th, 2017:

We had a table at Discover Tinley with handouts for paver bricks and memorial flag information.

Memorial Day – Mon., May 29th, 2017:

Wiley will secure a chaplain for the ceremony. The program will include The VFW “Voice of Democracy” winner, a Battlefield Cross Ceremony, presentation of a wreath in memory of all fallen veterans, the announcement of new bricks installed on the hero’s walk and dedication of the stone on memory of Ed Trennert. Andrew HS band will provide the music.

A question arose as to the location of the stone we had made for Ed Trennert. The commission feels that it should be placed in the Army section of the walkway.

Correspondence:

none

New Business:

Tony reported that Syracuse University Institute for Veterans and Military Families at Syracuse University is currently enrolling eligible veterans and their spouses in a free online program to enhance their career skills and job marketability.

The goal of the Veterans Career Transition Program, or VCTP, is to address the problem of unemployment faced by veterans and military spouses, and support those who are transitioning out of the military. Contact Tony for further information.

REPORT FROM THE AMERICAN LEGION:

We will be holding a carnival in the spring – more info at our next meeting.

REPORT FROM THE V.F.W.:

May 1st is Loyalty Day, we will be placing flags on the graves of deceased veterans at our 3 local cemeteries. Meet at the VFW at 7:30am, we will leave at 8am. We have a new auxiliary unit at the Post. We are putting up a permanent battlefield cross on a granite base at the Post. Dedication will be at noon on May 27th. Jim Hudik has been elected as our new commander.

REPORT FROM THE CHICAGO BASE U.S. SUBMARINE VETERANS:

No Report – No Rep

REPORT FROM THE MARINE CORP LEAGUE:

No Report

Report from the Korean War Veterans (KWVA) / the Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH):

We are still working on having our KWVA chapter hosting the State convention this year. On the 26th we will present an award to a ROTC student at Shephard HS.

AVMRA

We have an upcoming spaghetti dinner on the 29th from 4pm to 8pm, adults \$8.00 pp, kids \$5.00.

Any other business

The next direct burials at Abraham Lincoln Cemetery will be Mon. June 12th and Tues. Sept 12th both at 9am committal shelter C.

Comments from the public:

none

The meeting was adjourned at 1954 hrs.

The next Commission meeting will be held May 10, 2017