

Tinley Park Veterans Commission Minutes of the March 10, 2020 Meeting

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 7:10 p.m.

P=Present / E=Excused / A=Absent

P- Doug Rasmussen - Chairman	A- Board Liaison (None)
A- Roxane Tyssen - Secretary	A- Pat Carr - Staff Liaison
A- Robert Baisa	A- Robert Bullard -US Submarine Vets
P- Chris Hansley - VFW Aux. Pres.	A- Jim Hudik
P- Jimmy Hunter	P- Norm Pestlin, Interim Amer. Legion Commander
E- Eva Reyes - AVMRA	P- Georges Sanon
P-Karen Tobola	A-Don Tomich - MCL, Commandant
P- Ken Wrezzes – VFW Commander	

Chairman's Comments:

Announcements regarding COVID meeting requirements, phone silencing, and other minor items were recited.

Minutes of the last meeting:

Minutes were distributed before the meeting for commissioner review. There were no changes. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Jimmy Hunter, Dom Tomich seconded. The minutes were approved. **NOTE:** There are two instances in the February 2021 minutes where the audio was muffled and the Commissioner who made the initial motion could not be heard, but they were made by a Commissioner who was present.

Remarks by Liaison:

No Report.

Static Display for Veterans Parkway:

- Doug has reached out to Sgt. Quayar at [Ft.] Sheridan and left a message. We are still hoping to get the 151 Howitzer. He will reach out to him again for a revised status.
- Rededication of Howe Veteran's Memorial and M84 Mortar Carrier on Armed Forces Day, May 15, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. Event location is at the corner of Timber Drive and Veteran's Parkway. Alternate date, if weather does not cooperate, will be June 12, 2021.
 - Senator Hastings has been confirmed as the guest speaker;
 - Additional issues such as a tent, chairs, a band, and alternative dates were brought up and reviewed.
- Landscaping. Saunoris Garden Center has agreed to donate the landscaping trees and labor to enhance the static displays. George Sanon made a motion to present Mr. Saunoris with a certificate of appreciation for his donation, Jimmy Hunter seconded.

Education in Art in Public Buildings:

- Nothing to report.

Memorial Flag and Citation:

- Nothing to report.

Brick/Banner Program*:

- Doug spoke with Marketing. The DD214 requirement was removed from the applications. the Banners are still restricted to Tinley Park residents only.
 - There are 18 poles along Veteran's Parkway and Timber Drive that can support banners.
 - In the off season, the Commission would like to install banners depicting the history of the American Flag and/or the seals of the US Armed Forces to be placed on the poles when the banners with the soldiers are taken down.
 - A motion was made by Norm Pestlin to look at the feasibility to install the off-season banners, Chris Hansley seconded.

Correspondence:

- Nothing to report.

New Business:

- Memorial Day. The Commission has scheduled the Color Guard, rifles and Battlefield Cross for the event.
 - George Sanon has scheduled Bishop Ronnie White to be our guest speaker.
 - Attendance will be limited to 50 people with social distancing being in place.

REPORTS:

Report from the American Legion:

- The Legion will have corned beef specials for St. Patrick's Day/Sunday, March 14.
- Norm Pestlin is the temporary commander for the American Legion.

Report from the VFW:

- The fish fry on Friday's have started, take out only.
- They will have corned beef specials on Sunday, March 14.
- There is a live band on March 20, tickets must be purchased (\$5/person) as the seating is limited.
- April elections of Officers and installations are being combined into one night.
- May 1st is Loyalty Day.
- Jim Hudik is holding a blood drive on May 22nd.
- Queen of Hearts is on Wednesdays.
- Karaoke is on Friday nights.

Report from the Marine Corps League:

- First meeting is March 15, 7:30 p.m. at the VFW.

Report from the Chicago Base U.S. Submarine Veterans:

- Nothing to report.

Report from the VFW Auxiliary:

- Their elections and installment will be in April.
- There will be a Card and Bunco Party, Sunday April 18.
- Christmas in July craft fair, July 25th.
- Golf outing in August.

- Hoping to schedule a 5K run in September.

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

- KWVA – Had their first meeting in February, nine members showed up. They are going to try to do some scholarships this year.
- MOPH – Nothing to report.

Report from AVMRA:

- AVMRA, VFW Aux., and VFW partnered up and bought Girl Scout Cookies and brought cookies to Manteno and LaSalle Veteran's Homes.

Any other business:

- QPR Training sessions via Zoom are being done on March 22nd. This is a suicide prevention session. (Question Persuade Refer)
- Questions regarding Discover Tinley arose. Roxane will inquire about the event.
- Manteno:
 - Will reopen for new residents. They will start applications next week. You can make appointments to see your loved ones.
 - The National Guard bought TVs for each room at Manteno.
 - They are getting a new roof.
- Prairie State College is coordinating a Cell Phones for Soldiers program. Old cell phones in good shape will be cleaned, ones in unusable shape will be gutted for parts to repair phones if possible.

Comments from the public:

- None.

Jimmy Hunter made a motion to adjourn, Norm Pestlin seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m. The next Veteran's Commission meeting will be held April 14, 2021 at 7 p.m.

*The military Banner Program can be found here: https://www.tinleypark.org/news_detail_T5_R241.php