

Tinley Park Veterans Commission Minutes of the November 10, 2021 Meeting

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 7:08 p.m. A moment of silence was given to send healing thoughts to Medal of Honor recipient Woody Williams; Mr. Williams, now 98, is receiving care from injuries due to a fall. An announcement to wish the Marine Corps a happy 246th birthday was given.

P=Present / E=Excused / A=Absent

P - Doug Rasmussen - Chairman	P - Colleen Sullivan, Trustee Liaison
P - Roxane Tyssen-Secretary	A- Pat Carr, Staff Liaison
P - Robert Bullard -US Sub Vets	P - Fred Cagle – VFW Commander
P - Chris Hansley - VFW Aux. Pres.	A - Jim Hudik
P - Denise Houdek	P - John Houdek
E - Jimmy Hunter	A - John Maher (Assoc.)
P - William McNellis, Commander Amer. Legion	P - Norm Pestlin
P - Georges Sanon	A - Karen Tobola
P - Don Tomich - MCL, Commandant	A - Ken Wrezzes (Assoc.)

Two guests were introduced, Allan Roache, Tinley Park citizen and fellow Veteran, and Shawn Hammett, Veteran's Outreach Program Specialist with the US Department of Veteran's Affairs facility in Orland Park.

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. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Chris Hansley, Don Tomich seconded. The minutes were approved.

Remarks by Trustee Liaison:

Trustee Sullivan made the following announcements:

- The commission budget was briefly reviewed to get shirts for the Commissioners. There is a \$300 maximum to purchase these.
 - This is a line item within the entire budget for the Veteran's Commission.
 - Karen Tobola is handling the shirts.

Static Display for Veterans Parkway:

- There are no new developments on new equipment. After Jan 1 the Chairman will revisit securing additional equipment.
- Three of the evergreens were dying, Sanouris was informed and they have already replaced them.
- There are six new banners for each of the service branches.

- Photos of the M84 has been submitted to the organization that keeps track of them.

Education in Art in Public Places:

- Nothing current to report. There are some ideas of who will be presented with the next piece(s). Dee Houdek will work with Doug on this.

Memorial Flag and Citation:

- Flags are still on order, they are backlogged 18+ months on fulfilling them.

Brick/Banner Program*:

- There are 3 bricks that will be announced on Veteran's Day and one that was a hold over from Memorial Day. The family was unable to be present on Memorial Day but will be there for Veteran's Day.
- Applications for bricks and banners will be handed out at the Veteran's Day event.

Correspondence:

- No new correspondence has been received.

Ongoing Business:

- All Service Breakfast recap:
 - Positive comments were given for the food, door prizes, etc.
 - 68 veterans were registered, 61 showed up (no including plus 1's); total count before the event was 130 people, only approximately 90 showed; COVID definitely had an effect on attendance.
 - Entertainment could have been shorter, it was recommended that the entertainment start once everyone has gotten their food.
 - Additional details were discussed on how to improve the event for next year.
- Veteran's Day event:
 - Event details were discussed including but not limited to: start time, entertainment, speakers, luncheon, Girl and Boy Scouts, et.al.

New Business:

- The banner program may be expanding to additional flagpoles, Doug discussed details and costs.
- It was announced that a World War II veteran that lives in Tinley Park, Mr. Eddie Durham, will be celebrating his 100th birthday in early December; his daughter has invited the Commissioners to attend a celebration for him on December 11th.
- Veteran's Day event specials were discussed.

REPORTS:

Report from the VFW

- The Navy recruits will be there on Thanksgiving for dinner, volunteers to help serve are welcome.
- Members are continuing to visit schools.
- The raffle tickets will be drawn November 13.

- The Manteno Home needs Christmas lights, donations can be brought to the Post and they will be brought there.
- The Post will send \$500 each to the four Veteran's home facilities in the area.

Report from the American Legion:

- SAL has an upcoming gun raffle.

Announcements:

- Commissioner Sanon introduced veteran Shawn Hammett, a Veteran's Outreach Program Specialist with the US Department of Veteran's Affairs facility in Orland Park. He discussed his background and the programs that the Orland Park facility offers. Shawn handed out business cards and brochures.
- Commissioner Sanon mentioned a concert on February 19 with the Army Band that will be held at Prairie State College.

Comments from the public:

- Mr. Roache introduced himself and discussed his desire to get more involved in organizations and events centered around Veteran's

There will be no December meeting. The next Regular Veteran's Commission meeting will be held January 12, 2021 at 7 p.m.

Jim Hudik made a motion to adjourn, Chris Hansley seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

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