

Tinley Park Veterans Commission Minutes of the January 12, 2022 Meeting

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 7:058 p.m.

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
E - Chris Hansley-VFW Aux. Pres.	E - Jim Hudik
E - Denise Houdek	E - John Houdek
P - Jimmy Hunter	A - John Maher (Assoc.)
P - William McNellis, Commander Amer. Legion	P - Norm Pestlin
P - Georges Sanon	E - Karen Tobola
P - Don Tomich - MCL, Commandant	A - Ken Wrezzes(Assoc.)

One guest was introduced, Bruce Haffner, from the Tinley Park Historical Society.

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 Jimmy Hunter, Bob Bullard seconded. The minutes were approved.

Remarks by Trustee Liaison:

Trustee Sullivan made the following announcements:

- The budget for 2022/2023 was briefly discussed.

Static Display for Veterans Parkway:

- The Commissioners discussed the paperwork that TACOM still needs.
- Chair Rasmussen stated he would get the application for Air Force and Navy equipment.

Education in Art in Public Places:

- Nothing current to report.

Memorial Flag and Citation:

- Nothing to report.

Brick/Banner Program*:

- There should be more light poles/banner space that we can use if needed in 2022.

Correspondence:

- No new correspondence has been received.

Ongoing Business:

- Veteran's Day Event 2022:
 - The event will be held at The Odyssey this year instead of BG Patrick Rea Plaza. This is due to unpredictable weather in November. The luncheon will still be hosted at the VFW.
- Purple Heart update:
 - Roxane Tyssen gave an update on the Purple Heart that was found at a residence in Tinley Park.
 - We are continuing to look for a probable nephew of the recipient but are at a standstill with his name as it is a somewhat common name and we found about a dozen people with that name.
 - Additional discussions were had with regards to employing other organizations that may be of additional help.
- Memorial Day:
 - The found Purple Heart may be a good reason to add this as a discussion item to the program.
 - Chris Hansley usually procures the band for entertainment.

New Business:

- Georges Sanon has looked into costs/examples of patriotic ribbons for the spouse (or guest) of the attending veteran for some of our events (specifically the All Service Breakfast) and updated the Commission on what he found.
- The banner program may be expanding to additional flagpoles, Doug discussed details and will contact Marketing for an estimate of costs.

REPORTS:

Report from the VFW

- The Navy Recruitment Dinner for Thanksgiving had to be canceled due to COVID. The food that was collected for the dinner was distributed to the Veteran's Homes and two other local food pantries.
- The New Year's Eve party, Queen of Hearts, and karaoke were all also canceled due to COVID. They resumed back this week.
- The Voice of Democracy dinner was moved to January 29.
- The Post will have food and drink specials on Sunday, March 6 in conjunction with the Tinley Park Irish Parade. They will have corned beef sandwiches with sides as the main dish.
- The seasonal fish fry has started but it is order-and-carry out/curb-side service only.

Report from the American Legion:

- Sons of the American Legion (SAL) will be having a shrimp boil on March 19, 2022; it may be carry out or dine in, decisions
- The Post will have food and drink specials on Sunday, March 6 in conjunction with the Tinley Park Irish Parade. They will have corned beef sandwiches with sides as the main dish. Rumor has it, the Legion's sammiches are better than the VFW's.

Announcements:

- No announcements were made.

Comments from the public:

- Bruce Haffner from the Historical Society presented a framed copy of the Resolution for Corporal Sutter. He would like it to either go to the family if they want it or it was suggested that it be presented to Andrew High School since he graduated from there.
- Prarie State is co-sponsoring a blood drive with VFW Post 311 on February 10.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at 7 p.m.

Jimmy Hunter made a motion to adjourn, Don Tomich seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

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