

## Tinley Park Veteran's Commission

### Minutes of the February 22, 2024 Special Meeting

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 7:05 p.m. Housekeeping items for the good of the order were announced. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

**P=Present / E=Excused / A=Absent**

P – Dr. Doug Rasmussen, DC - Chairman	E - 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 - Robert Colby	P - Bruce Haffner
P - Chris Hansley-VFW Aux. Pres.	A - Jim Hudik
P - Jimmy Hunter	A - John Maher (Assoc.)
E - William McNellis, Commander Amer. Legion	P - Norm Pestlin
P - Georges Sanon	P - Don Tomich - MCL, Commandant
P - Paul Windich	E - Ken Wrezzes (Assoc.)

#### Minutes of the last meeting:

- Minutes from January 10, 2024 meeting were distributed. Secretary Tyssen asked for one correction on the spelling of a name and asked for a motion to approve as amended. Jimmy Hunter made the motion to accept the minutes as amended, Chris Hansley seconded, all approved.

#### Remarks by Trustee Liaison:

- Trustee Sullivan was not in attendance. Secretary Tyssen reminded the commission that the Irish Parade is Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

#### Static Display for Veterans Parkway:

- Commander Cagle reviewed the changes with TACOM reporting procedures. Much of it is moving to online including photo submissions.
  - To apply for static supply items, all submission requests are online now. The Commander is checking into whether or not we need to reapply online

#### Education in Art in Public Places:

- Nothing to report.

#### Correspondence:

- There was one application for a brick and one for a banner. These will be submitted to Kristin Thirion.

### **Ongoing Business:**

- Memorial Day:
  - Chris Hansley discussed the Voice of Democracy and the Patriot's Pen program. The winners will be presenting at the March meeting.
  - Chris Hansley updated the commission on the band for Memorial Day. She is working on getting the Community Band since classes at both Central and Tinley Park High School will have had their graduations by then and will not be available.
  - A guest speaker has been secured, Bob Welsh.

### **New Business:**

- The chairman discussed commissioner duty assignments.
  - The webpage was discussed.
    - Commissioner Norm Pestlin agreed to assist with the overall look of the Veterans Commission page.
- The virtual wall that Bob Colby created and presented to the commission in binder form is something that the commission would like to have on the web page. We will try to get the original copies of the articles as what is in the binder he presented.
- The Chairman would like to assign someone specific as a Vice-Chairman who will be able to fill in should he not be able to attend a meeting. Commissioner Jimmy Hunter volunteered.
- Commander of the VFW, Fred Cagle offered to reach out to other local veterans groups and update the commission on what they are doing.
- Georges Sanon volunteered to create a document (that can be linked from the commission's web page) that lays out month's and day's that are assigned to specific veteran's organizations or groups, i.e. Army's Birthday, Marine's Birthday, VFW Day, American Legion Day, Women Veteran's Day, etc.
- Tinley Park Library:
  - The chairman was wondering if the library has a specific section for military literature.
- Promoting the Commission:
  - Fred Cagle mentioned that the commission might look into supporting veteran's events such as the family picnic day for one of the local Army National Guard units. The Chairman will look into the scope of how the commission can participate.
  - Discussions on how to promote things like VFW Day of Service, American Legion Day, etc. were had.
  - Recruit volunteers/commissioners to represent the commission at Village sponsored/organized events such as National Night Out, the block party, and more.

### **REPORTS:**

- Report from the VFW:
  - Fred Cagle attended the Voice of Democracy dinner down in Springfield. The local winner came in 9<sup>th</sup> place.
  - VFW Day of Service is May 4, 2024.
  - Café Repair program was discussed. The organization repairs small appliances for free to save people money and keep these items out of landfills. He is looking into having them come to the post for a day or so to do this for the community.

- March 29<sup>th</sup> is Vietnam War Veterans Day.
- The VFW fish fry starts Friday.
- Fred met with the Mayor regarding moving the post to a new location.
- They will have sandwiches/food and entertainment after the Irish Parade.
- VFW Auxiliary:
  - They are still collecting bottle caps for the bench at the Marion, IL home. Any overages collected will go towards a second bench that will be at the veteran's home in Manteno and will be set up by their catch and release pond.
- Report from the American Legion:
  - The Legion is starting their own fish fry. It was announced that they serve real fish such as cod, walleye, catfish, and shrimp. The walleye is baked not processed and breaded, all meals are served with a baked potato or fries.
  - They will also have sandwiches/food and entertainment after the Irish Parade.

**Announcements:**

- Secretary Tyssen found a small book of war poems written mostly by mothers and parents as their sons go off to war. It was published in 1944. Some of these may be useful to use at Memorial or Veteran's Day events or at the posts for their events.
- Georges Sanon announced the resource fair on March 27<sup>th</sup>. He will be emailing out the informational flyers to the commissioners.

**Comments from the public:**

- There was no public in attendance.

Chairman Rasmussen asked for a motion to adjourn, Jimmy Hunter made the motion, Chris Hansley seconded, all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at 7 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

\*The military Banner Program can be found here:

[https://www.tinleypark.org/news\\_detail\\_T5\\_R241.php](https://www.tinleypark.org/news_detail_T5_R241.php)