

Tinley Park Veteran's Commission

Minutes of the March 13, 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

P - Roxane Tyssen-Secretary

A - Robert Bullard -US Sub Vets

E - Robert Colby

P - Chris Hansley-VFW Aux. Pres.

A - Jimmy Hunter

P - William McNellis, Commander Amer. Legion

P - Georges Sanon

P - Paul Windich

P - Colleen Sullivan, Trustee Liaison

A - Pat Carr, Staff Liaison

P - Fred Cagle – VFW Commander

P - Bruce Haffner

A - Jim Hudik

A - John Maher (Assoc.)

P - Norm Pestlin

P - Don Tomich - MCL, Commandant

P - Ken Wrezzes (Assoc.)

Minutes of the last meeting:

- Minutes from the February 22, 2024 meeting were distributed. There was one correction and a motion to approve as amended was proposed. Norm Pestlin made the motion to accept the minutes as amended, Chris Hansley seconded, all approved.

Remarks by Trustee Liaison:

- Trustee Sullivan handed out shirts to those that needed size adjustments.
 - The Irish Parade was a success, approximately 32,000 people attended.
 - Updates on Pete's Fresh Market, Amazon, Teehan's, and Harmony Square, etc. were announced.
 - She reviewed the dates for events in 2024: Block Party, Rib Fest, Music in the Plaza, etc.

Static Display for Veterans Parkway:

- Commander Cagle stated that there are new staff at TACOM but there was nothing else to update the commission on.

Education in Art in Public Places:

- Some of the staff from the Tinley Park History Museum went to Andrew High School to talk to the history teachers. Andrew has a wall dedicated to Veteran's

Correspondence:

- There was one application for a banner that came in. It was forwarded to Lisa Valley.

Ongoing Business:

- Memorial Day:
 - The Community Band will be playing at the event, Mandy Berry will be singing the National Anthem.
 - Voice of Democracy winning writers have been invited to the event.
 - The Korean War Veterans Association wants to be included in the flags display.
 - VFW Color Guard will play TAPS.

New Business:

- The chairman discussed ways in which the commission can become more involved with the community. Having a presence at community events such as the Block Party and Rib Fest (a tent with information to be staffed by members of the commission). Additional mentions were for the commission to organize food drives for the two food banks in the Village, scholarships, sponsorships or in-kind donations for veteran groups, have a commission float for Village parades, have a veteran's picnic, and organize a community Trunk or Treat event around Halloween.
- Commissioner Jimmy Hunter accepted the position of vice-chairman.

REPORTS:

- Report from the American Legion:
 - It was reported that long time Tinley Park resident Dave Deil passed away in Henderson, AZ.
 - The fish fry is going very well.
 - Corned beef sandwiches with sides are available for purchase on St. Patrick's Day.
- Report from the VFW:
 - March 29th is Vietnam Veterans Day.
 - The fish fry is continuing to do well.
 - On March 22nd the Manteno vets are coming for a fish fry dinner, there was a call to action for the commissioners to assist with unloading the vets at 3:00 p.m. if anyone is available.
 - May 1st is Loyalty Day and volunteers will be needed to put flags on graves.
 - May 4th is the VFW Service Day.
- VFW Auxiliary:
 - They are still collecting bottle caps for benches at the Marion and Manteno veterans homes.
 - The golf outing is scheduled for Saturday, August 24th. The cost is \$125/per person with a shotgun start. After golfing, there is a steak fry back at the VFW. Everyone cooks their own steaks.

Announcements:

- Commissioner Georges Sanon announced that he is working on a program with the military for immigrants to gain citizenship. This is not a political program; it is based on facts.

- Georges made available information on financial resources for veterans and is working on a calendar of veteran related dates to be posted on the commission's webpage.
- On March 27th there is a job resource fair at Prairie State.

Comments from the public:

- There was no public in attendance.

Chairman Rasmussen asked for a motion to adjourn, Bruce Haffner made the motion, Norm Pestlin seconded, all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at 7 p.m. in the Kallsen Center.

*The military Banner Program can be found here:

https://www.tinleypark.org/news_detail_T5_R241.php