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MINUTES OF COMMISSION MEETING
THURSDAY, March 24, 2016
7:00 P.M.
VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMISSION

Commission Members Present: Ralph Pechanio, William Shanklin, Mark Mulliner, Paul Tilton, Marie Weibler, and Bradley Anderson

Commission Members Absent: Elaine Jason, and David Gass

Guests Present: Rev. Stanley Harding

1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pechanio at 7:05 p.m. who then introduced our guest Rev. Stanley L. Harding, a U.S. Navy veteran who was invited as a prospective member of the Veterans Commission to fill our vacant clergy position.

2) Approve Minutes of October 29, 2015

Motion to approve by Marie Weibler and seconded by Bill Shanklin. Minutes approved unanimously.

3) Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mulliner reported a balance of \$975.74 as of March 15, 2016. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report by Bill Shanklin, seconded by Marie Weibler. Approved by unanimous vote.

4) Reports from Commission Members

a) Administration:

Chairman Pechanio distributed copies of our 2016 Honor Roll calendar/schedule for the use of commission members. He reported that he has sent information to three families who have expressed an interest in honoring a deceased veteran in 2016.

b) American Legion:

William Shanklin reported on current activities and the situation arising from the City's disallowing gaming, however in lieu of legalized gaming they have come forward with a generous grant program to support the Legion. The Legion is planning their first Military Ball as a major fundraiser on September 10. Bill also reported the need for new members of their Honor Guard.

- c) **VFW:**
No report – David Gass absent

 - d) **American Legion Auxiliary:**
Elaine Jason, absent, no report.

 - e) **VFW Auxiliary:**
Marie Weibler reported that the auxiliary is going along smoothly with a variety of activities. The transition from the Elmhurst Post to Villa Park has turned out well!

 - f) **Clergy:**
Position vacant – no report.

 - g) **Park District:**
Brad Anderson reported that the spring cleanup has begun at Wilder Park to include the Veterans Memorial grounds. He also said they will pay special attention to cleaning the brick floor of the Memorial as was requested by Ralph.

 - h) **School District:**
Paul Tilton reported that he again is coordinating with the members of the York High Key Club to help out at Elm Lawn cemetery in May for Memorial Day cleanup and plantings. York students will participate in compliance with their school schedule availability.
- 5) **Review of Veteran’s Day Activities, November 11, 2015**
Bill Shanklin reported on the traditional program and our special rededication of the Vietnam Memorial plaque. We were blessed with extremely good weather and a large crowd in attendance. Everyone in attendance was most pleased with both the service at our Veterans Memorial and at the Vietnam plaque located at the east end of Wilder Park. The restored plaque lists the names of all Elmhurst Veterans who gave their lives in Vietnam.
- 6) **Plans for Memorial Day Activities, Monday, May 30, 2016**
Chairman Pechanio, who also serves as Co-Chairman of the Elmhurst Memorial Day Committee, distributed copies of the 1st draft Parade line-up for discussion. He said the Parade Committee has held two monthly meetings and will meet again in April and May to complete the necessary Parade Planning.

Bill Shanklin distributed copies of his outline for the military service to follow the Parade. A discussion followed and Bill updated the Commission on his contact of three veterans to be considered as Parade Grand Marshal candidates. Ralph explained that the Parade Committee considered candidates from a list of Elmhurst Police and Fire military veterans , but those considered declined the honor at this time. The Parade Committee discussed three alternates and it was agreed that Bill should screen the

candidates to see if they qualified and were willing and able to be considered for this year or future Parades. A decision will be made by Ralph, Bill, and John Quigley who serves as Co-Chairman of the Parade Committee.

7) Other Business

None

8) Public Comment

Our guest, retired Rev. Stanley L. Harding, officially applied to fill our open clergy position. He is a U.S Navy Veteran, 1966-1976, with two tours in Vietnam, obtaining the rank of O3 Lieutenant.

9) Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date was established as Thursday, April 28 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

9) Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Marie Weibler, seconded by Mark Mulliner. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Submitted by Ralph Pechanio, Chairman