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MINUTES OF COMMISSION MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2014
7:03 P.M.
VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMISSION

Commission Members Present: Ralph Pechanio, William Shanklin, David Gass, Marie Weibler, Jerry Pask

Commission Members Absent: Chaplain Scott Matheney, Elaine Jason, Mark Mulliner

Guests Present: None

1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pechanio at 7:03 p.m.

2) Approve Minutes of May 22, 2014

Motion to approve by Jerry Pask and seconded by Bill Shanklin. Minutes approved unanimously.

3) Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mulliner was absent, no written report was available.

4) Reports from Commission Members

a) Administration:

Chairman Pechanio circulated a letter to Elaine Jason regarding the death of Elaine's mother Edna who was an original Commission member. He also distributed a copy of his memorandum dated August 11th on the death of current Commissioner Richard Kamka. Richard was also an original member of the Commission. A discussion followed on replacing Richard Kamka. Bill Shanklin provided Chairman Pechanio with the name of Paul Tilton, who is a veteran and is on staff at York High School as was Richard Kamka, Ralph discussed two other positions up for renewal: first Marie Weibler's renewal is pending as her application form, which she completed and mailed to the City has not been received. Marie did receive a polite reminder that Ralph had administrator Erin mail to her. Marie will complete her paperwork again and will be reappointed! Second, the renewal for Chaplain Matheney remains open as he has not communicated his intention to serve again. Chairman Pechanio has written to Chaplain Matheney, and has spoken to him. Chaplain Matheney is reluctant to resign, but understands we need a religious representative who can attend on a more regular schedule. Regardless of the

outcome, we will continue to anticipate his contribution at our Veterans and Memorial Day events. A second set of renewal forms has been mailed to him.

b) **American Legion:**

Bill Shanklin reported that the financial condition of the Post remains marginal. State approved electronic gaming has yet to be approved by the City of Elmhurst and "action" would be most appreciated. A task force is to be appointed to determine the future direction of the Post!

c) **VFW:**

Dave Glass reported that the VFW Post has a new Commander, Dan Thomas. The Post is located in Villa Park so they are benefitting from electronic gaming. They also have anticipated revenue from their firing range by conducting concealed carry weapon training!

d) **American Legion Auxiliary:**

Elaine Jason absent, no report.

e) **VFW Auxiliary:**

Marie Weibler said that their Post activities are doing well. She stated that the Auxiliary joint duties with Elaine Jason of the American Legion to maintain the "Honor Roll" boards at the Memorial have gone well, but since our scheduled services have declined they would like to expand the use of the Boards when services aren't scheduled for a deceased veteran. Ralph thanked Marie, and asked her to confer with Elaine and bring a proposal forward at our next meeting in October.

f) **Clergy:**

Rev. Scott Matheney absent, no report.

g) **Park District:**

Jerry Pask asked if the City is requiring their Commission members to be certified under the State's Open Meeting Act? Chairman Pechanio stated he will inquire. Jerry presented the military resume of Colonel Mark Mallon, U.S. Army Reserve, an Elmhurst resident, for possible involvement in our Veterans and Memorial Day activities. Bill Shanklin will contact him!

5) **Review of Memorial Day Activities, Monday, May 26th**

Chairman Pechanio, who was also co-chair of the Parade and activities reported briefly that he was very happy with our Elmhurst celebration. Attendance, participation, and execution met expectations. Bill Shanklin who acts as emcee for the Military Service at the Veterans Memorial conveyed the same sentiment. Ralph and Bill both complimented Jerry Pask on the Elmhurst Park District's preparations and support at the Memorial.

6) Plans for Veterans Day Activities, Tuesday, November 11th

Bill Shanklin said he is working on the draft for our services to be conducted at 10:30 a.m. Jerry Pask distributed his detailed set-up illustrations for our reference. Bill is also in meetings and discussion with Elmhurst College regarding possible participation by the affiliated ROTC members. Also, the College is planning their first Veterans Day program. Bill reported that they want to expand their recognition of veterans and that both he and Jerry Pask have spoken to Political Science students.

7) Other Business

Chairman Pechanio reported that Jerry Pask had left a message that the Park District's office received questions as to why the U.S. Flag at the Memorial wasn't flown at half-staff for the anniversary of September 11th. A discussion was held as to the proper flag etiquette. In addition, Ralph asked that Bill clarify the duties of the Legion's Honor Guard members to designate a member(s) to take on the responsibility of lowering the flag when appropriate!

8) Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date was established as Thursday, October 23, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall as usual.

9) Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Bill Shanklin, seconded by Jerry Pask. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Submitted by Ralph Pechanio, Chairman