



**CITY OF ELMHURST**  
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CITY MANAGER

**MINUTES OF COMMISSION MEETING**  
**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015**  
**6:58 P.M.**  
**VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMISSION**

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

Commission Members Absent: Elaine Jason

Guests Present: Don Kempf, Kevin Calkins

**1) Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pechanio at 6:58 p.m.

**2) Approve Minutes of September 24, 2015**

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

**3) Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Mulliner reported a balance of \$1,296.30 as of October 15, 2015. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report by Dave Gass, seconded by Bill Shanklin. Approved by unanimous vote.

**4) Reports from Commission Members**

**a) Administration:**

Chairman Pechanio distributed copies of his memo to the Elmhurst City Council conveying the Veterans Commission's motion of September 24, 2015 in support of video gaming for the Elmhurst American Legion Post 187. Alderman Mark Mulliner, Commission Member and Treasurer, stated the importance of veterans advocacy at the next City Council meeting on Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Ralph reported that in response to last meetings discussion about our vacant clergy position, that he did call Rev. Scott Matheny for his input regarding possible Elmhurst clergy candidates. Scott provided several names for our consideration. Bill Shanklin has attempted to reach a possible candidate and Marie Weibler offered information on a retired minister who is a Navy veteran. Ralph said he will contact possible prospects after Bill completes his efforts.

b) **American Legion:**

William Shanklin reported on the Elmhurst Post's support and advocacy for Video Gaming. Their usual for profit events are all operating below past financial results. The annual children's Christmas event will not be held due to financial problems.

c) **VFW:**

Dave Gass reported that financial activities are in good shape at the Villa Park Post.

d) **American Legion Auxiliary:**

Elaine Jason, absent, no report.

e) **VFW Auxiliary:**

Marie Weibler reported that both the VFW and the Elmhurst American Legion will be hosting recruits from Great Lakes on Thanksgiving Day. Volunteers to help and donations are welcome. Both posts will host the activity due to lack of space, two hundred will be transported to each location. The Villa Park Post is located at 39 E. St. Charles Road.

f) **Clergy:**

Position vacant – no report.

g) **Park District:**

Brad Anderson stated that the lights at the Memorial have been repaired. He suggested that we review individual markers hidden in perennial plantings for better exposure. He also said that the Park is working with Troost Monument Company on the pending reinstallation of the deceased Vietnam veterans plaque.

h) **School District:**

Paul Tilton followed-up on his efforts to get Key Club members to attend our Veterans Day Service however they cannot due to school conflicts. He has arranged for York musicians, drummer and trumpet players, to perform at our Veterans Day Service.

5) **Plans for Veteran's Day, Monday, November 11, 2015, 10:30 a.m.**

Chairman Pechanio informed the members that as usual he has contacted the Elmhurst Funeral Homes to provide their listings of deceased veterans for our Veterans Day recognition.

Bill Shanklin distributed his outline for our Veterans Day Observance. Discussion followed with particular participation and input from Kevin Calkins, our guest and organizer for the rededication of the Vietnam plaque recognizing the fourteen young men from Elmhurst who died in Vietnam. Revisions were made to the program to allow for a transition from our service at the Veterans Memorial after the placement of

wreaths to the site of the Vietnam plaque located at the east end of Wilder Park. Color guards and attendees will follow the bagpiper to the rededication site for the reading of the deceased's names with special attention to those who are named on the refurbished plaque.

Brad Anderson said that the footings for the new granite stone supporting the plaque will be installed under the supervision of the Park District on Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Dave Gass asked about providing our guests with information on the Vietnam plaque, and Chairman Pechanio suggested that Kevin should provide historical information to Bill Shanklin to be incorporated into our printed program. Both Kevin and Bill said they would do so.

**6) Other Business**

Bill Shanklin informed us that the suggestion to have a back-up location at the Elmhurst College student union is not possible at this time. We will utilize the Wilder Mansion as our weather emergency facility for Veterans Day and Memorial Day, as provided by the Elmhurst Park District.

**7) Public Comment**

None except for participation as noted by Elmhurst residents Kevin Calkins and Don Kempf.

**8) Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting date was established as Thursday, March 24, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

**9) Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Dave Gass, seconded by Bill SHanklin. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Submitted by Ralph Pechanio, Chairman