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MINUTES OF COMMISSION MEETING
THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2015
7:02 P.M.
VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMISSION

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

Commission Members Absent: Elaine Jason

Guests Present: None

1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pechanio at 7:02 p.m.

2) Approve Minutes of October 23, 2014

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

3) Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mulliner reported a balance of \$1,351.06 as of March 15, 2015. Motion to accept Treasurer's report by Jerry Pask seconded by Bill Shanklin. Approved by unanimous vote.

4) Reports from Commission Members

a) Administration:

Chairman Pechanio distributed the 2015 Honor Roll schedule to the members for their use.

Ralph distributed copies of an article published by the Associated Press on December 28, 2014 marking the end of the U.S. and NATO War in Afghanistan. As the war has officially ended, Ralph said he will make arrangements for the Troost Monument Company to inscribe the 2014 ending year at the Veterans Memorial. (Troost's certificate of insurance to 10-1-2015 was provided).

Ralph also reported that last Thursday evening, March 19th he noticed that the Memorial was not lighted. The lighting is tied into the street lights and Mark Mulliner thought that area was having a problem. Jerry Pask and Bill Shanklin said they will drive past the Memorial when the meeting is over to see if there is a problem.

Ralph then distributed copies of a series of emails related to a complaint made by John Anderson of Ohio, whose father is buried in the Veterans section at Elm Lawn Cemetery. The essence of the subject was that U.S. flags weren't posted on the graves for Veterans Day and that the area is not kept properly! After some discussion Mark Mulliner said he will contact Elmhurst scouts, and Paul Tilton of District 205 will see if both the York Kiwanis Key Club and the Rotary International Club can provide flags and care before Memorial Day Weekend. Ralph will contact Mr. Anderson and Elm Lawn.

Regarding Commission members status, Ralph informed the members that Jerry Pask is retiring from the Elmhurst Park District will be resigning from the Commission. Jim Rogers of the Park District will be nominating Brad Anderson as Jerry's replacement. A retirement luncheon will be held for Jerry on Thursday, April 30th at 11:30 a.m. at H.B. Jones on south York at Vallette. Ralph then distributed copies of a letter to Reverend H. Scott Matheney confirming his resignation from the Commission. Mark Mulliner again stated his intention to nominate a member of the Elmhurst clergy to replace Reverend Matheney.

b) **American Legion:**

Bill Shanklin reported that the Post continues with many activities aimed at raising needed funds. Membership has declined to about 600 members. A brief discussion was held regarding the possible approval of video gaming for the Post!

c) **VFW:**

Dave Gass reported that Post 2801 just celebrated their 80th Anniversary on March 8th.

d) **American Legion Auxiliary:**

Elaine Jason absent, no report.

e) **VFW Auxiliary:**

Marie Weibler reported that before Elaine Jason left for her extended stay in Florida that the two of them put together Honor Roll boards for monthly messages at the Memorial during winter and spring seasons.

f) **Clergy:**

Position vacant!

g) **Park District:**

Jerry Pask said he would defer his comments to the Memorial Day planning discussion and Veterans Day review.

5) Review of Veterans Day, November 11, 2014

Bill Shanklin who serves as the MC at our Veterans Military Services, reminded us that rain made it necessary to move the program indoors to the Wilder Mansion. The service was modified, but came out well. The Commission members complimented the Park District on their cooperation.

6) Plans for Memorial Day, Monday, May 25, 2015

Ralph distributed an early draft of the Parade line-up and Bill presented a preliminary outline of the Military Service to follow the Parade. Discussions followed. Bill is confirming our military representatives and in conjunction, Ralph said he has five convertibles with drivers and asked Mark Mulliner if his Thunderbird could be available. Mark agreed and Ralph said he would contact Scott Ahlgrim to drive the convertible.

7) Other Business

Mark Mulliner reported that he received an inquiry from an Elmhurst Veteran about the possibility of initiating a Vietnam Memorial. After some discussion it was agreed that Mark should invite him to our April meeting.

8) Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date was established as Thursday, April 23, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

8) Public Comment

No one spoke during public comment.

9) Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Jerry Pask, seconded by Dave Gass. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Submitted by Ralph Pechanio, Chairman