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MINUTES OF COMMISSION MEETING
THURSDAY, April 27, 2017
7:00 P.M.
VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMISSION

Commission Members Present: Ralph Pechanio, William Shanklin, Marie Weibler, and Paul Tilton

Commission Members Absent: Rev. Stanley Harding, Rosemary Draine, David Gass, and Mark Mulliner

Guests Present: Anne Scheppele of Elmhurst Park District

1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pechanio at 7:04 p.m without quorum.

2) Review Minutes of March 23, 2017

Not approved as needed quorum not present, to be approved at next meeting.

3) Treasurer's Report

No written report, treasurer absent.

4) Reports from Commission Members

a) Administration:

Chairman Ralph Pechanio opened the meeting by reporting that Rosemary Draine, Stan Harding, and David Gass relayed their regrets. He then displayed a plaque to be presented to long time past commission member Elaine Jason. Ralph will present the plaque to Elaine at the Veterans Memorial Military Service following the Memorial Day Parade for her long time service as a commissioner and secretary.

Ralph reported that correspondence has been completed to honor deceased veteran Donald J. Bales on Sunday, June 11. He provided copies of the press release and other information to Bill Shanklin and Marie Weibler in preparation for the service.

Ralph also reported that he received a phone call from Mrs. Regina Prescott and that she will not be requesting a service for her deceased husband Len this year as the family is not available to attend at this time. No other services have been scheduled at this time. Ralph asked that members please advise him of other candidates.

b) **American Legion:**

Bill Shanklin reported that the City of Elmhurst will be providing an additional grant of \$30,000. Funds are restricted but will be put to an authorized use. As discussed at our last meeting; this year's Veterans Day will be a full one as it is a Saturday (November 11). Our service at 10:30 am will be followed by a concert at noon at Elmhurst College and in the evening the 2nd Annual American Legion Military Ball will be held at the Post.

c) **VFW:**

David Gass, absent – no report.

d) **American Legion Auxiliary:**

Rosemary Draine, absent – no report. However she wanted everyone to be reminded that Poppy Day will be observed on May 25 and that Poppy fund raising will also be conducted at the Memorial as part of their Memorial Day effort to raise funds for Veterans in need.

e) **VFW Auxiliary:**

Marie Weibler reported that she has prepared the Honor Roll sign for display at the Veterans Memorial on Memorial Day.

f) **Clergy:**

Rev. Stanley Harding, absent – no report.

g) **Park District:**

Commission post remains open. Anne Scheppele in attendance for the Park District reported that an internal candidate has been hired and will be announced soon and he is prepared to serve on our Veterans Memorial Commission.

Anne also updated us on the plans for the Patriots Care U.S. Flag display to be set up on Memorial Day weekend. She is following up with Jerry Christopherson of Patriots Care.

h) **School District:**

Paul Tilton confirmed York High School's musicians participation at our Memorial Day Service. He also said some Key Club members may help with the flag display set up on May 25, however the school year ends on May 24. Other volunteers will help at 4:30 pm on May 25.

5) **Plans for Memorial Day 2017 Activities – Monday, May 29, 2017**

Ralph distributed the current Parade Line-Up draft for discussion. He pointed out that the Royal Air Drum and Bugle Corps has just withdrawn so the Chicago Highlanders Pipes and Drums has been moved up to their vacated position number 5.

Discussion of the line-up followed and Bill Shanklin pointed out that the "Explore Elmhurst"

Trolley to be part of the Elmhurst Mayor's City Officials unit hopes to provide transportation of Veterans and friends down the Parade route.

Bill and Ralph reviewed the Military Officers who will be driven in convertibles as unit number 12. Final assignments of representative drivers and convertibles will be arranged by Ralph. Bill Shanklin distributed his Military Ceremony outline for review. He has or will be completing verification of all the participants. He will provide a Special Presentation place for Ralph to follow his Welcome.

Any additional plans for the Parade or the Military Service will be reviewed on May 17 at the final Parade Committee meeting scheduled for 3:pm at the Elmhurst Chamber.

6) Other Business

Paul Tilton reminded us that a fund raising program "Pull Up for Patriots" will take place from 6pm Friday evening, April 26 in the City Center Plaza. They will be honoring Sgt Joseph Vanek of Elmhurst, KIA Iraq.

7) Public Comment

None.

8) Next Meeting Date

The next commission meeting will be held on Thursday, 7pm, May 25, 2017.

9) Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Bill Shanklin, seconded by Paul Tilton. The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 pm.

Submitted by Ralph P. Pechanio, Chairman