



CITY OF ELMHURST
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MINUTES OF COMMISSION MEETING
THURSDAY, March 23, 2017
7:00 P.M.
VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMISSION

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

Commission Members Absent: Rev. Stanley Harding

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.

2) Approve Minutes of October 27, 2016

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

3) Treasurer's Report

Treasurer reports a balance of \$1,707.75 as of March 15, 2017.

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report by Marie Weibler, seconded by Paul Tilton. Approved by unanimous vote

4) Reports from Commission Members

a) Administration:

Chairman Ralph Pechanio opened the meeting by announcing that our Park District representative Brad Anderson has resigned effective March 10 on his departure from the Park's employment. Ralph recognized Brad for his professional service and welcomed our guest Anne Scheppele of the P.D who will be representing them on our Commission and the Elmhurst Memorial Day Parade Committee until Brad's replacement is hired.

Ralph reported that he will complete the correspondence to honor Donald J. Bales on Sunday, June 11. No other dates have been reserved for our 2017 schedule to honor deceased Veterans at the Veterans memorial.

b) American Legion:

Bill Shanklin reported that two members of The American Legion Color Guard Participated in Elmhurst's St. Patrick's Day Parade. The Post continues their Friday Fish

Frys, which continue to be successful. The final grant check from the City was received in December. The 2017 grant request has been forwarded to the City for approval. On November 11, 2017, which is a Saturday and Veteran[s Day, their second Military Ball is to be held and U.S Army Colonel Mark Mallon is the chair. The Elmhurst College may host a concert on Veterans Day after our Veterans Memorial Ceremony, in the Hammerschmidt Chapel at 1:00pm.

Home Depot approved a grant for \$18,500 in materials to renovate the post. Contributions of labor will be solicited. The post has also committed \$22,000 from their City grant for an electronic message sign.

c) **VFW:**

David Gas reported that the VFW is doing well since they added on site gambling. Home Depot provided them a grant for an outside pavilion; construction is underway.

d) **American Legion Auxiliary:**

Rosemary Draine reported that Chili Cook-Off was cancelled, leaving them without a fundraiser for the year. They do provide home-baked goods (dessert bar) at Fish Frys to help defray expenses. Rosemary is the Poppy Chairman for Elmhurst again. This year poppies will be available on Thursday, May 25, and at Wilder Park on Memorial Day.

e) **VFW Auxiliary:**

Marie Weibler is Poppy Chairman for Villa Park, also scheduled for May 25, 2017.

f) **Clergy:**

Rev. Stanley Harding, absent – no report. He left both phone and email messages conveying his regrets.

g) **Park District:**

Anne Scheppele will represent the Park District coordinating the Memorial Day Ceremony. True Patriots Care will display 330 flags in Wilder Park beginning 4pm May 25th, and remove them on May 30th, at 4pm.

h) **School District:**

Paul Tilton will arrange for York High School to provide musicians for drum & bugle music at the Memorial Day Ceremony. He will ask York's Key Club to help with the True Patriots Care flag assembly and take down.

5) **Review of Veterans Day Activities - Friday, November 11, 2016.**

Program went as planned, good attendance, good weather. Thank you to the Park District for their continued support at the Memorial.

6) **Plans for Memorial Day 2017 Activities – May 27, 2017**

Bill Shanklin reviewed his handout detailing his plans for the Memorial Day Ceremony. He is

in the process of contacting and confirming participants. This year Jerry Chrostopherson of True Patriots Care will speak to the significance of their flag display.

Ralph distributed the first draft of the parade line-up and the meeting notes of the first two Parade Committee meetings which he chairs with John Quigley of the Elmhurst Chamber. Detailed discussion followed.

7) Other Business

Paul Tilton informed us that the city will be voting to install a “pull-up bar” on Park District property in memory of Joseph Vanek, an Elmhurst Veteran “killed-in-action” in Iraq.

Ralph reported that five new crosses will be added to this year’s display: PFC Donald Bales, PVT William Frank, Capt John Francis, Sgt Frank Kabor, and LCPL Larry Palmer.

Rosemary Draine will investigate the inclusion of Women Veteran’s Groups to be included in future Memorial Day Parades.

8) Public Comment

None.

9) Next Meeting Date

The next commission meeting will be held on Thursday, 7pm, April 27, 2017.

9) Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by David Gass, seconded by Rosemary Draine. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Submitted by Rosemary L Draine