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MINUTES OF COMMISSION MEETING
THURSDAY, October 25, 2018
7:00 P.M.
VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMISSION

Commission Members Present: Ralph Pechanio, Bill Shanklin, Dave Gass, Paul Tilton, Mike Monell, and Rosemary Draine

Commission Members Absent: Alderman Mark Mulliner and Rev. Stanley Harding

Guests Present: None

1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pechanio at 7:05 p.m.

2) Review Minutes of May 24, 2018

Motion to approve was made by Bill Shanklin, seconded by Rosemary Draine. Minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

3) Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mark Mulliner absent, Chairman Pechanio presented a written report. Balance \$2,515.94 as of October 25, 2018. Motion to accept Treasurer's report by Bill Shanklin, seconded by Paul Tilton. Approved by unanimous vote.

4) Reports from Commission Members

a) Administration:

Ralph Pechanio began by reporting that he received an e-mail notice inviting Veterans to attend York High School's annual Veterans Day observances. Matt Moran of YHS advised that on Friday, November 9 a continental breakfast/reception will be held at 7:15 a.m. followed by a formal student assembly program at 8:00 a.m. On Saturday, November 10, a breakfast for Veterans and families will be held between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. in the school cafeteria. Reservations should be directed to mmoran@elmhurst205.org or to telephone number 630-617-2400 x7285.

Ralph distributed copies of our pending 2019 Honor Roll date schedule. As a follow up to last month's ongoing discussion of dealing with our shortage of Honor Roll military representatives Ralph suggested that as a possible solution we consider altering our long standing program. He said we will continue to accept deceased veterans to be honored at the Memorial, however instead of individual Sunday services we establish two or three dates where we would honor applicable requests as a group. Individual biographies

would still be prepared, and a joint press release sent to our local papers. A discussion followed, Rosemary Draine said she understood the manpower problem however she hoped that we could continue with our individual services. Ralph and the other members shared her concerns, however unless other volunteers can be utilized going to group services seems to be a workable solution. Bill Shanklin said he will review our military program and determine how we would modify our Honor Roll Service. Ralph emphasized that if we adopt group programs that we will make sure that each honored veteran and their sponsors will be treated with full honors as we have done for the past 25 years. Bill will present his modified program at our March 2019 meeting, allowing us the proper time to inform the public for our 2019 summer season.

b) **American Legion:**

Bill Shanklin updated the members on the status of current events at the Post. He said the bar and restaurant has seen a pick-up in business as several local establishments have closed. Cool Cars was successful and will be sponsored again next year. The Third Annual Military Ball will be held this Saturday, October 27th as previously discussed. Attendants and sponsorships are up from last year.

The Post believes that they will be benefitting from pending State of Illinois legislation that will allow all American Legion and Veterans of Foreign War Posts to conduct Video Gaming without municipal licensing. A consultant has reserved the "five" allowable terminals for the Legion pending approval by the State of Illinois. Video Gaming would ensure that the Post would be financially viable and can continue to serve the Elmhurst community and expand their charitable causes such as hosting Thanksgiving Day for military recruits.

c) **V.F.W:**

Dave Gass reiterated how their post has benefitted by Video Gaming and their pistol range. Regarding our vacant VFW position he hopes to have a candidate by March 2019. The Post will join the Legion at both York's assembly and on Veterans Day.

d) **American Legion Auxiliary:**

Rosemary Draine said she is involved in the Post's "Thanksgiving Day" Dinner Program for Great Lakes Navy Recruits. She will prepare our Veterans Day Honor Roll board. Dave Gass offered his assistance; Rosemary was pleased to accept his help.

e) **V.F.W Auxiliary: :**

Position vacant, no report.

f) **Clergy:**

Rev. Harding absent. No report.

g) **Park District:**

Mike Monell passed on any remarks in lieu of comments during our Veterans Day

discussion to follow.

h) School District:

Paul Tilton confirmed his participation at the York High School Veterans Day assembly. He also reported that on Veterans Day, Sunday, November 11, that he and his wife will be assisting Jerry Christopherson of True Patriots Care in the setup of 100 American Flags around the perimeter of our Memorial in Wilder Park.

5) Final Plans for Veterans Day Activities of Sunday, November 11, 2018.

Bill Shanklin provided his Veteran Day Ceremony outline for discussion. Bill pointed out that a local quartet will sing the National Anthem. General John Wendall will offer our opening prayer and will emphasize that this is the 100th Anniversary of Armistice Day, the end of World War I, noting the history of what is now designated Veterans Day. Mayor Morely will be our keynote speaker. As customary we will have the names of local veterans who have died since our last gathering on Memorial Day read by John Quigley of the Elmhurst Chamber of Commerce. Ralph will obtain the listings from our local funeral homes as usual. Rev. Stanley Harding will provide the appropriate benediction.

Mike Monell provided the members with the Parks traditional set up for the Memorial. He also, advised us that the Park has made arrangements for the use of Elmhurst College's Schaible Science Center located just across the street on Prospect, in the event of bad weather. Bill said he will notify our Comcast crew of the backup arrangements.

Paul Tilton verified that the York High School will provide buglers and a drummer to play at our service.

Bill Shanklin reminded us that Elmhurst College will be hosting a patriotic musical program at Hammerschmidt Chapel immediately following our service. He will inform our attendees of the event.

6) Other Business

None

7) Public Comment

None. No guests present.

8) Next Meeting Date

The next commission meeting will be held on Thursday, 7pm, March 28, 2019.

9) Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Mike Monell, seconded by Paul Tilton. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Submitted by Rosemary L. Draine, Secretary