

Township of Egg Harbor

Veterans Advisory Board

Cardiff VFW Post 8098
3029 Spruce Avenue, EHT

February 23, 2015

MINUTES

Member Lundberg called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM.

Members recited the Pledge of Allegiance and members held a moment of silence for the departed.

Roll Call: Dan Clayton – *Absent*
Mike Ebert – *Absent, excused –leave of absence*
William Hegarty – Present
Paul Hodson – *Absent, excused*
Douglas Lundberg, Jr. – Present
Pat Moschetto – *Absent*
John Rush – Present

Guests: Robert Williams, Active Duty Army Veteran, current NJ Army National Guard

APPROVALS

⚔ Minutes of November 24, 2014

Member Lundberg postponed the reading and approval of the minutes until more members are present.

MISCELLANEOUS BOARD BUSINESS

The January 26, 2015 meeting was canceled due to inclement weather.

Robert Williams inquired on how Member Ebert was doing, but no one had heard. Members continue to wish him the best.

OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business was brought forward for discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

⚔ Memorial Day Preparation

Members discussed early ideas for Memorial Day. Member Lundberg recited ideas from last year's Memorial Day minutes. At that time, Member Hodson placed Member Rush in charge of the parade setup for Memorial Day 2015, to include but not be limited to, parade marchers formation, order, and location; and community center opening and staffing for inclement weather.

The issue of parade applicants being unsure of formation location and order of march was discussed. Member Rush had an idea of placing signs of the streets listing who should form up at that location. Member Lundberg also suggested placing that information on the registration form so that the marchers had the information ahead of time. Robert Williams suggested placing the information also on the Townships website and Facebook page.

Concerning advertising of the event, Member Hegarty suggested the Township make handouts and signage at key locations. Member Lundberg brought up an old idea, of which he thought originated with Member Clayton, of placing a banner across Ocean Heights just as the 300th Anniversary Committee did. Member Rush reminded that such a banner would be difficult to do due to cost.

Member Lundberg restated Member Hodson's desire to have the parade and ceremony taped and later broadcasted. Lundberg suggested the Board consider contacting the EHTHS media department.

Member Lundberg restated Beth Epstein's suggestion for a type of identification be given to her, board members, and other volunteers as she had difficulty in both accessing the event and setting up the event due to the Police Department and parade attendees not abiding by her authority. Robert Williams will attempt to secure lanyards from the National Guard for this purpose.

Member Rush stated that the Police Department had blocked off access to both Ocean Heights and to the setup area, for example blocking the intersection of Leap Street and Ocean Heights, too early which caused parade lineup issues.

Member Lundberg stated that he is frequently approached by Township residents with two common complaints. The first complaint is that the parade does not have enough military elements. It was witnessed that the 177th Air National Guard participated last year by providing vehicles and uniformed marchers, but residents would like to see more and continued military participation. The second frequent complaint is that the Police Department/Sheriff's Department and rescue personnel seem to hold a focus of the parade due to the parade order of march. Both concerns are based on the fact that Memorial Day is a military oriented holiday.

Concerning speakers, Member Rush indicated that he has already secured Assemblyman Chris Brown as a speaker. Robert Williams will attempt to secure a local Airman who was recently awarded the Silver Star. Member Lundberg will reach out to the Puggi family in order to recognize the loss of their relative during the Vietnam War. If Robert Williams is able to secure his speaker, the Board will have enough at that point.

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February 23, 2015 - Minutes

Page 3

§ Township Veteran Assistance Request

Member Hagarty notified the Board that he was asked by a neighbor for help concerning veteran related issues. Member Rush suggested that he be referred to Atlantic County Service Officer Robert Frolow.

ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 23, 2015 at 7:00 PM at the Cardiff VFW.

- Motion to adjourn the meeting made at 7:55 PM:
→ Motion made by Rush, second Hagarty. All present voted- yes.

Douglas Lundberg, Member
Acting Secretary