

Township of Egg Harbor

Veterans Advisory Board

Cardiff VFW Post 8098
3029 Spruce Avenue, EHT

March 23, 2015

MINUTES

Member Hodson called the meeting to order at 7:05 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 – Present
Douglas Lundberg, Jr. – Present
Pat Moschetto – *Absent, excused*
John Rush – Present

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

APPROVALS

¶ Minutes of November 24, 2014

These meeting minutes were discussed.

Motion Hodson, second Rush. All present voted- yes.

¶ Minutes of February 27, 2015

Last meeting minutes were discussed.

Motion Lundberg, second Rush. All present voted- yes.

MISCELLANEOUS BOARD BUSINESS

Member Hodson inquired on how Member Ebert was doing, but no one had heard.

Member Lundberg reported that the Township has recently received two requests from residents wishing to serve on the Board. The first request is from Brian Borowski received December 14, 2014, as a second request from him; the second request to the Board was received February 25, 2015 from Robert Williams who has recently been attending.

A reply was sent to Mr. Borowski from the Township office thanking him for his interest and to encourage him to first attend the meetings to further gauge his interest.

Member Lundberg replied to Mr. Williams request, thanking him for his current participation, and informing him there is no current vacant seats on the Board, but encouraged him to continue helping.

Member Hodson informed the Board of the reorganization occurring at Township Hall and that Secretary Janice Hughes duties have sifted, and therefore, Secretary Jenna Rocco will be assisting the Board for the current time. Member Lundberg confirmed he was already working with Jenna.

OLD BUSINESS

⚔ Memorial Day Preparation

→ Parade Setup

Member Hodson informed the Board that Memorial Day request having been coming into his office. He has requested the registration form be modified and posted.

Member Hodson issued that the parade will start on May 25 at 9:00am.

Robert Williams presented to the Board a sketch of the parade setup/formation that can be filled in as registrations occur. Once completed, this will be submitted by email to the registered groups. This is a big improvement over previous years and members thanked him for that work.

Member Lundberg again suggested, due to previous complaints from residents, that military elements hold precedence in the parade, for example, setting up the 177th color guard/walkers if they participate, the Civil Air Patrol color guard/walkers, and the Cardiff VFW in the front of the parade formation. Member Hodson will discuss this with the Township Police liaison to see if this will cause any difficulties.

Robert Williams will inquire to the Atlantic City USCG Air Station to see if they will be able to participate this year.

Member Lundberg will officially request the presence of the 177th Air National Guard through their public affairs office as he did it last year with successful results.

Member Hodson commented he would like to see the Northfield National Guard Armory participate.

Robert Williams successfully secure some lanyards while Member Hagarty produced identification cards to be used in them. These will be issued to any volunteers.

→ *Ceremony Setup*

Member Lundberg confirmed at least one request was from the Girl Scouts who would like to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance during the ceremony, as well as participate in the parade.

Robert Williams informed the Board that he inquired about securing the Airman who recently was awarded the Silver Star; however, he is not local and will not be able to participate. At this time the Board has two out of three speakers. Member Rush secured Assemblyman Brown and Member Lundberg will be working with the Puggi family this year.

NEW BUSINESS

⚔ Veterans Day Essay Contest

Member Rush stated his displeasure on last years contribution from the schools concerning the lack of essays produced. He put forward the idea of expanding it to other schools and grades as one method of fixing the problem. If the problem can not be ultimately fixed he suggested the Board consider stopping the contest all together.

Member Lundberg stated he is against expanding it and cited the problem was a lack of communication within the 6th grade leadership/teachers which resulted in the lack of participation that year. He had talked to both principals Marinelli of Alder and Battersby of Fernwood and they both confirmed that the essay would be more successful if they were issued it before school starts so they could work it directly into the curriculum instead of an add on.

⚔ Township Resident Eagle Scout Project

Member Lundberg notified the Board that a Township resident, Stephen Prisament, reached out to him concerning possibilities of doing his Eagle Scout Project in assisting the Township and/or Cardiff VFW as he would like the project to be military/veteran oriented. More information will follow.

Member Hodson thought this a great idea and committed support of the Board if it will be needed, for example, if such a project were to take place at the Memorial site.

ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 27, 2015 at 7:00 PM at the Cardiff VFW.

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

Douglas Lundberg, Member
Acting Secretary