

Township of Egg Harbor

Veterans Advisory Board

Cardiff VFW Post 8098
3029 Spruce Avenue, EHT

April 28, 2014

MINUTES

Members met around the Veterans Memorial to gain insight at 6:30 PM.

Member Ebert called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM at the Atlantic County Library.

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

Roll Call: Dan Clayton – Present
 Milas Cook – Present
 Mike Ebert – Present
 William Hegarty – Present
 Paul Hodson – Present
 Douglas Lundberg, Jr. – Present
 Pat Moschetto – Present
 John Rush – Present

Guests: Beth Epstein, EHTVAB Auxiliary

APPROVALS

§ Minutes of March 24, 2014

Last meeting minutes were read by Member Lundberg.

Member Rush requested that the minutes be revised to state that reasons for member absence need not be noted. Minutes should note only Present; Absent; or Absent, excused.

- Motion to accept minutes as read with the above revision to be included:
→ Motion made by Moschetto, second Rush. All present voted: yes.

OLD BUSINESS

§ Memorial Day 2014 Continued Preparation

Ceremony Speakers: Member Rush informed the Board that requesting the two speakers he had thought of turned out to be impossible as the time requirement to do so had expired.

Member Lundberg wrote a letter of request to SSG Estergren's family. No response as of yet.

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Member Lundberg noted that this year marks the 70th Anniversary of the D-Day invasion. He has reached out the EHT Historical Society to see if they know of any Township veterans who took part of that historic event. He is awaiting a response.

With no speakers currently secured, Member Clayton mentioned that the Base Commanders of the USAF 177th Fighter Wing and the USCG Air Station Atlantic City be invited to speak. Lundberg will reach out to them.

Members again agreed with having a total of two speakers and the Estergren dedication would be the limit.

Ceremony Events: Member Ebert has secured EHTHS Band Director Dominic Scalfaro to provide Taps. They are further working details to allow the band to play patriotic melodies as well as march as the lack of a teacher contact hinders this.

Auxiliary Member Epstein stated her opinion that while the problems of the contact is understandable, that the meaning behind remembering Memorial Day should be foremost considered.

Member Lundberg stated that he reached out to Township Historian June Sheridan's granddaughter concerning signing patriotic melodies. She is unable to do so this time but was pleased by the request. The Board should consider her for future appointments.

Member Moschetto stated that he will provide his excellent singing to the ceremony.

Miscellaneous Setup: Member Hodson will work on replacing the U.S Flag. This is a service he continually and faithfully provides the Board.

Member Clayton will mark the area for proper placement of the bleachers.

Member Moschetto will inquire about securing the County Library restrooms.

Ceremony Location: Members Clayton and Ebert discussed their ideas concerning location of the Ceremony. It will occur this year towards the back of the monument, at an angle towards the library parking lot. This is needed to provide room for an increasing amount of spectators.

For the short term, the trash can near the back needs to be relocated. For the long term, the rearmost tree needs to be relocated. If the tree does not survive the Board will ensure another tree will be planted. Member Lundberg suggested choosing a historical tree like the Historical Society chose to plant at their location.

Registration/ Advertisement: Member Clayton revisited the idea of the Board placing a banner across Ocean Heights Avenue near the Memorial. The hardware is already in place from the 300th Anniversary banner that was previously placed there.

Member Ebert suggested a sub-committee form in order to finally complete this suggestion. Ebert and Member Rush will follow through on banner design and implementation.

Parade Setup/ Events: Setup location of the parade is the same as previous years.

Member Lundberg reached out to the USCG Air Station to see if they are willing to march in the parade. He is awaiting feedback from them.

Lundberg also contacted the 177th Air National Guard. The liaison officer, MSgt Andrew Moseley, was very pleased by the request. He stated no one had requested their presence this year so that we needed to do the form quickly. The form has been submitted and we are awaiting a response. This was a request for any and all assistance the base could provide.

Member Ebert stated he has contacted the USMC silent drill team through numerous contacts with no response.

Member Clayton suggested that the USCG Auxiliary be contacted to see if they can provide any assistance. He will forward contact information to Member Lundberg so that he can formally invite them.

§ 2014 Board Appointments

Member Lundberg asked where the Board stands on selecting appointments for Chairperson and Secretary. Member Ebert suggested that the Board further postpone establishing Board appointments until meeting with Mayor McCullough concerning the Board Modernization.

§ Veterans Memorial Rehabilitation

Members further discussed improvements that are needed to the Memorial.

Member Clayton stated that one of the first things to decide on is if the location still works or if a new location should be chosen and the memorial be started from scratch.

Handicap and restroom accessibility was again discussed.

Member Hodson stated his hope that nearby projects may be used to include improvements to the Memorial.

Member Rush suggested that each member should make a list of things they feel need to be accomplished at the Memorial so that a compiled list can be created.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

The next **two** meetings are hereby scheduled to focus on Memorial Day preparation:

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday May 12, 2014 at 7:00 PM at the Cardiff VFW.

The following meeting is scheduled for Monday May 19, 2014 at 7:00 PM at the Cardiff VFW.

- Motion to adjourn the meeting made at 8:05 PM:
→ Motion made by Clayton, second Moschetto. All present voted- yes.

Douglas Lundberg, Member
Acting Secretary