

# Township of Egg Harbor

## Veterans Advisory Board

Mayors Conference Room

3515 Bargaintown Road

**May 12, 2014**

### MINUTES

Members met at the Mayor's Conference Room at Township Hall.

Member Hodson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

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

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

Guests: Captain Dave Druding, EHTPD Memorial Day Liaison  
Beth Epstein, EHTVAB Auxiliary

#### **⚔ Memorial Day 2014 Continued Preparation**

The sole purpose of this meeting was to work on preparations for Memorial Day.

Registration/ Advertisement: Members discussed the tally of registrations prepared by Township Secretary Janice Hughes. It appears current registration is low but members are confident last minute registrations will bring the number up to traditional amounts.

Secretary Hughes needs the Board to start preparing the information for the order of events and handout.

Ceremony Speakers: Member Hodson started the discussion concerning speakers. Currently the Board has none formally reserved. Hodson has been working on Captain Mingo, USCG Air Station Commander, as a speaker. Member Lundberg has reached out to the 177th Air Wing Commander with no formal response back.

Member Lundberg is awaiting response from SSG Estergren's family. He reports that the Puggi family, representing another lost resident from Vietnam, has expressed they were impressed with

last years dedication to the Guenther family and that they are excited to participate. They will be used as a backup plan for 2014 with 2015 as their year to be dedicated.

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Member Lundberg volunteered, if no other speakers could be secured, to speak about the 70th Anniversary of the D-Day invasion. He has not heard back from the Township Historical Society on this issue.

Ceremony Events: Member Lundberg reported that the Reverend Dave Schumacher from Zion United Method Church has shown interest in performing the Invocation and Benediction. It was discussed that he could share the role with Pastor Steve Rather from Praise Tabernacle.

It is unknown if anyone is currently able, besides Member Moschetto, to provide any singing.

Member Lundberg discussed his ideas concerning a 21 Gun Salute with Captain Druding. Druding believed this was an excellent idea and could be possible for this year's ceremony. One possible setback would be not having enough officers able to perform. Lundberg and Druding will work together to figure out the feasibility, regulations, procedures, equipment, and where to put this into the schedule.

Miscellaneous Setup: Member Hodson will work on replacing the U.S. Flag and any others damaged. He will also contact Public Works on moving the rearmost trashcan so that the ceremony can take place in the rear of the Memorial, to have the bleachers delivered, to have weeding done and grass cut.

Member Lundberg suggested that the flags the Township installs on the utility poles down Ocean Heights should be lowered slightly so that the flags do not get caught into the cable and telephone lines. This happens every year and becomes unsightly until they are taken down.

Member Clayton will mark the area for proper placement of the bleachers. He will also be donating his own personal sound equipment for the Ceremony.

Member Moschetto has secured the County Library restrooms.

Member Lundberg will ensure the flags are lowered to Half-Staff.

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.

Parade Setup/ Events:

Besides possible low registration numbers, the parade itself seems to be coming together.

Member Rush expressed his concern that the EHT Education Association may use the event to advertise the ongoing contract dispute. Members generally thought nothing could be done to

prevent it, but if it does occur that it would be in bad taste and not in the spirit of Memorial Day and that Members would inform them that day.

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Member Hodson is attempting to secure military vehicles.

Member Lundberg asked if golf carts are needed this year, and if so how many. Members agreed a few should be on hand in order to provide transportation to any veterans who may not be able to walk. Lundberg requested Captain Druding that the EHTPD provide escort back down Ocean Heights for the golf carts after the ceremony for safety reasons.

**OTHER MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

Member Hodson reminded the Board that Flag Day will quickly approach after Memorial Day and that Members should start getting ideas together. Member Moschetto will not be able to attend.

Member Hodson reminded the Board that this years September 11th Ceremony will occur at Bargaintown Fire Department's September 11th Memorial.

Member Rush passed out firearm cable locks to those present at the meeting who were interested. They are provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Member Lundberg informed the board that the Township Historical Society will be having a military reenactment day on Saturday July 26th at their location. They are seeking two veterans from each conflict to participate in a open question/answer forum. A display case will be available for any who has items. Member Moschetto expressed a possible interest.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The already scheduled meeting for Monday May 19, 2014 at 7:00 PM at the Cardiff VFW will be held.

Member Hodson adjourned the Board at 7:55PM.

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Douglas Lundberg, Member  
Acting Secretary