

SOUTH WINDSOR PATRIOTIC COMMISSION

June 28, 2021

Call to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chairman Ken Lewis, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ATTENDANCE: Roger Anderson, Peter Anthony, Herb Asplund, Gene Botteron, Will Coursey, Ken Lewis, Leigh Loverng, Daria Plummer, Art Sladyk.

CALL TO ORDER: 7:06 pm

RECITATION OF THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MINUTES: Daria Plummer

- Motion made to accept the minutes of the May 24, 2021 as sent electronically and published on the town's website. **Asplund/Lovering CARRIED**

TREASURER'S REPORT: Ken Lewis

- Flag purchase update given, as inventory was replenished; \$5,052.96 in total spent on replacement flags for Main Street (purchased biennially), Memorial Day cemetery flags (annually), VMP branch flags (biennially). American Legion Field flags also replaced.
- Outstanding bills reviewed (Gift cards for 14 essay/poster contest winners—two ties 2021); wreaths for Memorial Day.
- Discussion held on meaning, importance, observances for community, families, veterans.
Motion: Lovering/Asplund Move to donate \$3,000 to South Windsor's Wreaths Across America observance, with remaining budget allocation (Pandemic unused funds) returning to the town.
CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE: Ken Lewis

- Town Hall reopening memo reviewed; contact tracing sheets filled out by members
- Hybrid evening meetings not being held as Town Hall now open for meetings in three areas

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Essay Contest 2021: Roger Anderson

- 14 winners this year (two ties)
- All winners notified/gift cards purchased (including one lost in mail)
- Electronic submissions, through official town Gmail account, to be resolved for 2022
- No cost to print submission forms as all elementary schools used electronic Friday Folders; other schools forms printed on personal home printer
- Registration completed to have 2020 and 2021 winners march/ride in the 175th SW Jubilee Parade, September 18, 2021; Leigh working on cars for parade

Armed Forces Day May 21, 2022: Ken Lewis—*TBD January 2022 (Pandemic assessment at that time)*

Memorial Day Parade May 31, 2021 & May 30, 2022: Leigh Lovering *Cancelled for 2021 (Pandemic assessment for 2022 will be held; assumption is that parade will return)*

Memorial Day Ceremony May 31, 2021: Ken Lewis, Art Sladyk for Ed Gawlinski

- Compliments on a ceremony well done; flyover lauded and appreciated

- Compliments on keynote speaker: Lee Mann
- Microphone stand will be available for 2022
- All wreath holders and items picked up by Gene and stored in Town Hall for 2022
- Discussion held on meeting with Park and Recreation; going forward pool employees will wait until Memorial Day service is completed before they enter/open pool.
- Discussion held on placing flags in SW cemeteries. Discussion will continue with Scout troops to ensure that flags are placed deep enough to withstand rain/wind and not be subject to falling at each gravesite
- Discussion also will continue with Scout troops to have those who need service hours to monitor cemeteries to ensure upright flags; pilot hole device a possibility to assist at some sites

Flag Day collections/ flag retirement ceremony June 12, 2021: Ken Lewis

- Completed
- SW Fire Department assisted in dousing remainder of fire

Veterans Day Ceremony November 11, 2021 Ken Lewis for Ed Gawlinski

- Ceremony will be held. (*Pandemic assessment at that time*)

Veterans in the Schools 2021: Daria Plummer

- No change from previous month. TBD based on state, local health guidelines and BOE guidelines.

Wreaths Across America December 18, 2021 (SW-VMP): Art Sladyk

- State ceremony is Monday, December 13, 2021, at the Capitol, but confirmation has yet to be received

Wall Behind the Monument and Improvements at VMP: Art Sladyk

- Discussion held with Park and Recreation re: security cameras; process going forward
- Weeds between bricks will be taken care of
- Discussion held on proper signage for Veterans Memorial Park; further P/R discussions will be held; director amenable to signage
- If P/R fall periodical is published, Commission submission desired. Art will pursue.

Wall of Honor: Herb Asplund – No report at this time

Banner Project: Daria Plummer, Herb Asplund

- Project completed for 2021; all 2020 banners given to families of 2020 honorees
- Article on project cross posted on social media, our FB page, and print article in 5/31/21 Journal Inquirer

Old Business: None at this time

NEW BUSINESS: None at this time

ANYTHING FOR THE GOOD OF THE COMMITTEE:

Gift card given to Kent Carlson, who was extremely appreciative of the Commission members' personal recognition of his years of service. Card signed also for Bob Moeller, previous chair.

Adjournment: 8:27 PM on a motion by **Asplund/Coursey**.

Next Meeting: Monday, September 27, 2021

Respectively Submitted,

Daria Plummer, Secretary