

SOUTH WINDSOR PATRIOTRIC COMMISSION
November 22, 2021, Meeting Minutes

ATTENDANCE: Roger Anderson, Peter Anthony, Herb Asplund, Diane Behler, Will Coursey, Ken Lewis, Bobbi Jo Maltz, Art Sladyk

CALL TO ORDER: Call to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chairman Bobbi Jo Maltz, followed by Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

- Motion to accept minutes of October 25, 2021 meeting. Asplund/Anderson
CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE: Bobbi Jo Maltz

- Ken Lewis' resignation from Patriotic Commission. Ken was thanked for his service.
- No other correspondence

TREASURER'S REPORT: Bobbi Jo Maltz

- Addition to written Treasurer's report - \$60.00 spent for VMP bricks. No other discussion

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ESSAY CONTEST: Roger Anderson

- Report on Town Council's presentation of certificates to 2020 essay winners on November 15, 2021.
 - Discussion of presentation process: Patriotic Commission members present were introduced, essay winners introduced themselves and first place essay winners read their essays, high school, middle school, grades 3-5. The presentation flowed smoothly and was successful. The possibility of having a picture taken when the Mayor presents the certificate to the student will be explored. The process utilized will be used in subsequent presentations
- Discussion of Town Council's presentation of certificates to 2021 essay winners, which is scheduled for December 6, 2021. The 2020 student who was unable to attend the November presentation will also receive his certificate on December 6th.
- The 2022 essay topics were discussed. The topics will be:
 - Grades K through 2 – Poster: My favorite historical place in Connecticut
 - Grades 3 through 5 – Essay: My favorite Connecticut historical person and why (300 words or less)
 - Grades 6 through 8 – Essay: What does freedom mean to me (350 words or less)
 - Grades 9 through 12 – Essay: What does it mean to be patriot and how could you show your patriotism (500 words or less)

- There was discussion of having the application online. Will Coursey will set up an online application link on our website. There will be a link to upload the essay and to forward to our email. The online application will be in addition to hard copies which will be forwarded to the schools.

VETERANS IN SCHOOLS

- Roger Anderson attended the ceremony. There was a discussion that veterans' videos are only showed to Civics classes at the High School. There was also discussion regarding limited military/veteran exposure in the schools. Bobbi Jo Maltz will look into Military recruiters participating at high school career days.

VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

- Art Sladyk reported that it was a very well attended event

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA: Art Sladyk

- December 18, 2021, at noon at VMP and December 13, 2021, at noon at the State Capital. We are ready. The cemeteries are marked with orange flags should there be snow. There are wreaths to cover all veteran graves in South Windsor.

ARMED FORCES DAY: Bobbi J Maltz

- There was discussion of format and vendors. It was agreed that there will be no military affiliation stipulation on either food trucks or vendors. There have been prior discussions with Paul Petrillo, an event planner. Bobbi Jo Maltz will talk with Paul and come back to Commission with his thoughts.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE, MAY 30, 2022: No report

MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY MAY 30, 2022: No Report

FLAGS IN CEMETERIES MEMORIAL DAY: No Report

FLAGS ON MAIN STREET: No Report

FLAG CEREMONY AND FLAG COLLECTIONS: Will Coursey

- There will be coordination with Ken Lewis. The Town Maintenance Department has access to where flags are stored. The flag drop off sites will be put on the website. The drop off sites are listed on Facebook. There was discussion of videotaping the beginning of the flag retirement ceremony. The video would be shared with the schools.

MEMORIAL PARK (VMP) IMPROVEMENTS: Art Slaydyk

- VMP is in good shape, the bricks are in and the fire-pit will be set

VETERAN BANNER PROJECT: Herb Asplund

- All 14 banners are down. They will be distributed to either the donor or the honoree. A flyer for new honorees has been distributed to assisted living facilities. All funds have been transferred to the South Windsor Community Foundation so donations will now be deductible.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None at this time

NEW BUSINESS:

- There was discussion of the merits of virtual meetings. The schedule shows upcoming meetings in the Madden Room; meetings are not being recorded. Bobbi Jo Maltz will explore the possibility of virtual meetings with the Town Manager.

ANYTHING FOR THE GOOD OF THE COMMITTEE: None at this time

NEXT MEETING: December 27, 2021, at 7PM, Madden Room

Respectively Submitted,

Diane Behler