

**SOUTH WINDSOR PATRIOTIC COMMISSION**  
**May 23, 2022**

**ATTENDANCE:** Roger Anderson, Peter Anthony, Herb Asplund, Diane Behler, Gene Botteron, Will Coursey, Ed Gawlinski, Leigh Lovering, Daria Plummer, Art Sladyk; Guest: Ken Lewis

**CALL TO ORDER:** Call to order 7:00 PM by Daria Plummer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MINUTES:** Daria Plummer

- Motion made to accept the minutes of April 25, 2022. **Anderson/Sladyk CARRIED**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** No report at this time

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Brick request submitted to Herb Asplund

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Essay Contest 2022:** Roger Anderson

- All schools have been notified of winners and each family contacted personally by Roger
- Parents told of Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony participation (May 30), as well as presentation before Town Council on June 6
- Any student unable to attend the June 6 Town Council meeting will have an opportunity to come before the Patriotic Commission in September or October
- Reserved seating will be had for both Memorial Day and Town Council presentation

**Armed Forces Day May 21, 2022:** Commission members

- Attendance good; guesstimate of approximately 60% of 2019; heat may also have been a factor for fewer attendees
- Interact Club students a huge help at Bounce Houses and cleanup
- Captain America a huge hit!
- Bluegrass band also a huge hit!
- Many in attendance for SW Community Band
- Fireworks were excellent
- Bounce House discussion—previous vendor provided workers and had areas set up for lines; further discussion next year (cost savings may not be worth it if vendor workers and lines desired)
- Thanks to Bob Starr, Anurag Joshi, Jim Anastascio, Peter Plummer for assisting in cleanup after the fireworks
- After action suggestions:
  - Large dumpster to be placed behind vendors
  - Vendors instructed to place their trash in dumpster
  - Jaycees should be responsible for cleanup (we certainly can help, but responsibility should not be totally ours)
  - Ensure that the National Anthem is played at the beginning or end of the evening, prior to fireworks
  - Six signs for portolet directions; leave portolets where they were this year

**Memorial Day Parade May 30, 2022:** Leigh Lovering

- Parade Order and Order of March, Divisions 1-4, updated as follows for members in charge:
  - Division I: Herb
  - Division II: Gene
  - Division III: Billy Carroll
  - Division IV: Will
- Members asked to share information about the parade on their personal social media pages
- Pleasant Valley Road is closed to traffic at 9:45 AM
- Commission members marching in Division 1: Herb, Will, Gene, and Bobbi Jo; remaining members have other parade responsibilities

**Memorial Day Ceremony May 30, 2022:** Ed Gawlinski

- All participants have been re-contacted
- Honor Guard also marching in the parade
- Ed will pick up wreaths from florist
- Art will ring the bell as names are read and will store the bell until next year
- Art also distributing flags to Scout troops and members asked to walk cemeteries to right any flags that may have fallen or are misaligned
- Intent going forward will be to have as many veterans as possible be part of the ceremony events
- No printed program for this year; to be discussed for next year

**Flags in Cemeteries Memorial Day May 30, 2022:** Commission discussion

- Volunteers needed to ensure flags placed on Thursday are straight by Memorial Day

**Flags on Main Street:** Leigh Lovering

- Flags up on Main Street; torn Rye Street flags will be replaced by the homeowner who has taken this project on; flags will be disposed of properly
- Sufficient cemetery flags for 2022; order to be placed for more to ensure they will be in place for 2023

**Flag Day collections/ flag retirement ceremony June 11, 2022:** Will Coursey

- Flag pickups continue; storage room filling up
- Fire Department contacted
- Fire pit in place
- SWHS news team to record and interview veterans about the meaning and importance of Flag Day and retirement of flags. Will to be interviewed; Paul Mozzicato to be asked also. Interviews at SWHS, W-F. Contact Will Coursey if interested.
- Park and Rec event 9-2; retirement 8:45-10:30; Park/Rec have been told of possible smoke/ash issue
- Large flags to be cut up before burning

**Veterans Day Ceremony November 11, 2022** Ed Gawlinski—no reported needed at this time

**Veterans in the Schools 2021:** Daria Plummer—no report needed at this time

**Wreaths Across America December 17, 2022 (SW-VMP):** Art Sladyk—no report needed at this time

**Wall Behind the Monument and Improvements at VMP (flagpoles, firepit, bricks):** Art Sladyk

- Firepit finished; lid finished; four locks purchased (\$40) by Art (reimbursable)

- Bricks to be replaced, as all pulled up to accommodate surveillance camera installation; bill should not come to the Commission for this

**Wall of Honor:** Herb Asplund—no report needed at this time

**Banner Project:** Herb Asplund, Daria Plummer

- Eleven of 25 veterans honored this year came to see their banners on May 21. Families and veterans very pleased
- Banners to go up week of May 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Herb, Daria, Mihika and Anurag Joshi will meet to coordinate possible celebration of banners which will include sponsors and families, Town Council and others.

**Old Business:**

- Discussion of Town Ordinance for purchases of \$5000
- Need to find out if there is an approved list of fireworks vendors to ensure we always use an approved vendor
- Removal of flag pole for special flags at Wapping Community House discussed; movement desired to another central community location; Wapping Community House designated for veteran use; American, state, and POW flag only is desired

**NEW BUSINESS:** None at this time

**ANYTHING FOR THE GOOD OF THE COMMITTEE:** Nothing at this time

**Adjournment:** 8:46 PM on a motion by **Asplund/Sladyk CARRIED**

**Next Meeting:** Monday, June 27, 2022, 7 PM, Madden Room

Respectively Submitted,

Daria Plummer, Secretary