



**SOUTH WINDSOR PATRIOTIC COMMISSION MINUTES**  
**April 22, 2024**

**ATTENDANCE:** Roger Anderson, Herb Asplund, Diane Behler, Will Coursey, Peter Bortolan, Gene Botteron, Billy Carroll, Ed Gawlinski, Paul Mozzicato, Daria Plummer, Art Sladyk

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

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** None at this time.

**CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATION:**

- Document from Planning and Zoning Commission has been received for any Commissioner who has not added input either as a member of the public or on other town committees into P/Z's 10 year plan. Members encouraged to do so if they have not done so.
- Connecticut National Guard will have a platoon size element for our Memorial Day Parade.

**MINUTES:** Daria Plummer

- Motion made to accept the minutes of March 25, 2024, with the change of Memorial Day Ceremony time (11 AM not 12 noon). **Sladyk/Anderson CARRIED**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Ed Gawlinski

- Current Balance is \$16,794.53, reflecting expenditures of a deposit for Armed Forces Day [\$100] (Bounce House company) and payment for new flags for Veterans Memorial Park [\$303.50]

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Essay Contest 2024:** Will Coursey and Diane Behler

- Winners will be notified by email on/by May 7. The numbers of the winning submissions are as follows;
  - K-2 Poster Contest: First, second, third winners: # 3, 2, 4.
  - Grades 3-5 Essay Contest: First, second, third winners: # 4, 8, 2.
  - Grades 6-8 Essay Contest: First, second, third winners: # 1, 5, 6.
  - Grades 9-12: Essay Contest: First, second, third winners: # 7, 5, 3.
- The Council has been asked for a June 3 presentation date. Winners will be notified of that date, as well as riding in the Memorial Day Parade.

**Banner Project 2024:** Herb Asplund, Daria Plummer

- For 2024, there will be 33 honorees.
- New brackets will/have been ordered for placement at the Town Hall/Library complex.
- John Caldwell has retired from Public Works, but David Turkington will take over the responsibility of erecting the banners for the Commission.
- 'Banner sharing' with honorees and families is Wednesday, May 22, SW Community Center, 4:30-7, so that pictures can be taken before the banners are erected. Two retractable stands will be available for use which should help ease the wait time for pictures.

**Armed Forces Day, 5 PM-dusk, May 18, 2024:** Ed Gawlinski, Will Coursey, Herb Asplund

- One signature remains for the fireworks permit.
- Will and Ed each have worked on the "electronic" permitting for AFD and other Commission events. It is the Commission's belief that the Park and Recreation Department has overall responsibility for this.

Ed will ascertain if that is true. A question will be asked of why we do not receive a confirmation that all has been received and is either complete or some identification of what remains to be done. We would like to know if there is a communal way to see what permits have been or not been approved. Will C. will ask about this.

- 4 x 8 Signage for Armed Forces Day will go up, followed at AFD completion by signage for the Memorial Day Parade.
- Ten food truck vendors will be at AFD; currently 13 entertainment attractions. Food vendors applications have closed; entertainment attractions still open.
- Six portolets will be available, two of which will accommodate handicap needs.
- Will Coursey volunteered to craft a flier that we post on Facebook and other areas of social media.
- Daria will confirm with Petrillo Events the military organizations that have asked to be present.

**Memorial Day Parade, 10 AM, May 27, 2024:** Paul Mozzicato

- Art Sladyk to give Paul the BSOA contact.
- Four portolets will be on the route, the handicapped portolet will be at the base of VMP parking lot.
- Paul will oversee promotion of the event with ads through social media and other avenues to generate a larger attendance.
- All permits for the parade have been completed, although there has been no confirmation of approval.

**Memorial Day Ceremony, 11 AM, May 27, 2024** Ed Gawlinski/Gene Botteron

- Buglers and chorus in place.
- Keynote speaker and grand marshal: Adam Gravseth
- Handicap accessible portolet will be available at lower parking lot for the ceremony.
- Chaplain is Rev. Anne Fraley, St. Peter's Episcopal Church
- Police Honor Guard confirmed.
- At least two bricks to be placed prior to the Ceremony.

**Flags in Cemeteries Memorial Day May 27, 2024:** Art Sladyk

- Flags will be out for placement on May 23 for cemetery graves.

**Flag Day collections/ flag retirement ceremony June 8, 2024:** Will Coursey

- Flag collection completed in April. No issues.
- SWPL Collection Box still not in a prominent position. Herb will check again. Suggestion is that it be placed inside the front door, to one side.
- Will to see if the Commission needs a permit for flag retirement ceremony.

**Veterans in the Schools 2024:** Art Sladyk, Daria Plummer

- No report at this time

**Veterans Day Ceremony, 12 noon, November 11, 2024:** Ed Gawlinski

- Speaker needed. Kent Carlson will be contacted by Gene Botteron

**Wall Behind the Monument and Improvements at VMP (flagpoles, firepit, bricks):** Art Sladyk/Herb Asplund/Gene Botteron/Will Coursey/Paul Mozzicato

- No report at this time.

**Wall of Honor (Town Hall):** Herb Asplund

- No report at this time

**Wreaths Across America December 14, 2024, 12 noon (SW-VMP);** Art Sladyk

- No report needed at this time

**Old Business:**

- Shirts to be order. Should the cost be over \$400, the Commission, the chair must give his approval to the Finance Department.
- Vietnam Veterans recognition for the Traveling Vietnam Veterans Memorial, in Manchester, CT, 9/19-9/22, 2024, not discussed to date.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Next meeting will be held the third Monday in May, as in on the schedule, not the fourth, due to Memorial Day and the need to ensure that all planning is in place for the events.

**ANYTHING FOR THE GOOD OF THE COMMITTEE:**

- Nothing at this time.

**Adjournment:** 8:00 PM on a motion by **Asplund/Botteron CARRIED**

**Next Meeting:** Monday, May 20, 2024, 7 PM, Madden Room

Respectively Submitted,  
Daria Plummer, Secretary

