

Beverly Veterans Council Meeting Minutes

May 5, 2022 @ 5pm

CITY OF BEVERLY
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I. Call to order

Jerry Guilebbe called the meeting to order at 5pm on May 5 at BevCam Studio.

II. Roll call

Jerry Guilebbe conducted a roll call. The following persons were present:

Veteran Council Members:

Jerry Guilebbe, President
Buddy Rehal, Vice President
David Perinchief, VSO
Susan Moran
Paul Weinberg (phone)
Cory Paulette
Chuck Clark
Ron Genest
Bob Laws
Don O'Connor
Paul Lantz

Advisory Members and Guests:

Sgt. Maj. Oswald, ROTC
Ken McKay, Veteran Services

III. Financial Report

The account balance is \$13,414.89. Don O'Connor made a motion to accept the financial report. Motion was seconded and carried

IV. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Chuck Clark made a motion to approve the minutes. Motion was seconded and carried.

V. Old Business

- a) Cemetery Flagging – Central Cemetery: May 24 @ 4:00pm; St. Mary's: May 25 @ 4:00pm; North Beverly: May 28 @ 9am. Twelve ROTC cadettes will be at each cemetery to assist with flagging. North Beverly Elementary school families and Beverly Girl Scouts will be assisting with St. Mary's Cemetery. Beverly Farms Cemetery will be taken care of on May 20. Paul Weinberg is taking care of the Jewish Cemetery. David Perinchief will take care of Dodge's Row Cemetery.

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- b) Memorial Day – Jerry Guillebbe has spoken to Robert Harrington about videotaping Memorial Day. He will get the placing of the wreaths and the ceremony at Odell Park. He will do the same for Beverly Farms. Jerry will have Robert Harrington contact David Perinchief regarding compensation for his services.
- c) Odell Park – The names have not been added to the memorial at Odell Park but Mike Collins has it on his list to get done. The cleaning of the bell tower and the painting will be done by David Perinchief and Ken McKay.
- d) Vietnam Veterans Memorial Plaza – Mayor Cahill said no to a light at the plaza and no tree removal.
- e) Street Signs – Mike Collins wants to know the wording for the street signs that Paul Lantz worked on. Mike will send it out to get finalized and will place the order.
- f) Flags on Cabot and Rantoul Streets – Mayor Cahill said no to flags on Cabot and Rantoul. This will be an ongoing discussion.
- g) Memorial Day Parade (May 22) – Italian American Band, Drum and Bugle Corps., and 54th MASS Reenactors will be attending. The flowers and wreaths are ordered and the bill has been paid. The food is done. Trolley has been locked in. The National Guard just got home, Jerry Parisella is checking to see if they are coming. Don O'Connor has two stands that can be used for wreaths. Doug McDonald has been trying to get in touch regarding classic cars for the parade. State Troopers will be bringing their horses.
 - (1) In Beverly Farms, wreaths will be placed as the parade moves along.
 - (2) Downtown the wreath will be placed at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Plaza to start the parade. Someone will step out of the parade to place the wreath at City Hall and then fall back into the back of the parade. Girl Scouts will lead the parade.
 - (3) A listing of all deceased veterans is needed. Bob Laws will read the names when he does the prayer.
 - (4) The word needs to get out that the date is May 22. A reverse 911 call will be sent. Newspapers will be notified of the date. Can Cabot Cinema advertise Memorial Day on their marquis? David will call and inquire.
 - (5) Catering for Memorial Day – Since this is city money, we will be rotating so every business in the city has the opportunity to support Memorial Day. If a business did it last year, they won't be doing it this year.
 - (6) No rain date – in the event of inclement weather the ceremony will be moved to the high school auditorium.

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- (7) Bruce Doig will take care of chairs and sound system.
 - (8) American Legion Firing Squad will be available. They were upset that they were unable to fire last time. They will fire this year.
 - (9) Sgt. Maj. Oswald suggested that ROTC cadets can carry veteran post flags in the parade.
- h) Veterans Fair – The VA will have a booth at Lobster Fest. Potential for another booth for veterans working with horses.
- i) Flag Day – June 14 @ the Elks. Time is to be determined.

VI. New business

- a) Burial for Veteran - \$650 is the cost of the burial. That will be coming out of the low-income account. All council members signed off.
- b) Future Council Meetings: 5/26/22, 6/23/22, 7/28/22, 8/25/22, 9/22/22, 10/27/22, 11/17/22, 12/22/22. These dates have been locked in with BevCam and the schools.
- c) New ROTC Instructor – Sgt. Maj. Oswald is retiring. Major Martin will be the new ROTC instructor at Beverly High School. He is taking over July 1st. He was at Haverhill High School for 3 years and then Hawaii. He is back and will be taking over BHS.
- d) Home Coming Cookout – It will be held at the Vietnam Veterans Plaza. Jerry will contact to make sure it is in the homecoming book. Brian Williams will handle the food. \$1500 is allotted for the cookout.
- e) Flags at City Hall – Jerry has gone around to every local city/town. Everyone flies only the American Flag and POW flag except the City of Beverly. There is one pole for the American Flag and POW flag and another pole for other organizations. Per David, this can be discussed over at City Hall. Buddy Rehal made a correction to a statement he made at the last meeting. He previously stated that under federal law only the POW flag can fly under the American Flag. Since then he has found that any flag can fly under the American Flag. Sgt. Maj. Oswald, brought to the attention of the council that the Space Force and Merchant Marines do not have flags at City Hall. This has been discussed with Mike Collins @ DPW. It is on the agenda to be completed.
- f) Park and Square Plaques – Ken McKay needs complete list of all park plaques and square plaques. Jerry and David had a list but it is not

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complete. Mike Collins has a more complete list. Jerry has a book with photos of all plaques. He will bring it to David's office to be scanned and backed up. If any kids want to learn to clean the cemetery stones or plaques, Ken can show them how to do it. Would be a good idea for Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.

- g) Independence Park Plaque – Jocelyn, the Chief of Staff, needs to contact the National Essex Heritage Society to see if the care of the sign can be turned over to David's office. If so, he will order a more modern signs that can withstand weather better.
- h) Naval Day Observance – It will stay on the Sunday of Memorial Day Weekend. It will be held on May 29, 11am @ Independence Park.
- i) Flag Etiquette and/or Flag Retirement – A Girl Scout Troop has reached out to Susan Moran requesting someone from the veterans council to come to a troop meeting and do a talk on flag etiquette or possibly a flag retirement ceremony. This was in the works prior to Covid and was put on hold due to the pandemic. Jerry Guilebbe and Ron Genest have offered to assist.
New Workshop – Ken McKay has a new workshop in the basement of the new VSO office. Posts will be able to store things in the building. There will be a Grave Association Event in June. The dates are June 15 – June 19. It is the Northeastern Group that gives classes and lectures on grave restoration and preservation. They will be staying at Endicott. It will be 3 days of classes and then they will be going out to work on Central Cemetery.

VII. Good of the Order

VIII. Adjournment

Chuck Clark made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:45pm.

Minutes submitted by: Susan Moran