



# TOWN OF ELLINGTON

## Ad Hoc Patriotic Committee

**Chairman**  
Peter Hany, Jr.

**Vice Chairman**  
Bruce Warkentin

**Secretary**  
Rhonda Villanova

55 MAIN STREET – PO BOX 187  
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187



RECEIVED  
18 APR 30 AM 8:59  
ELLINGTON  
TOWN CLERK

**Members**  
Joe Boucher  
Ted C. Graziani  
Cheryl Samborski  
John Takach  
Dennis Varney

**Student Representatives**  
Steven Villanova

April 24, 2018

Meeting called to order at 7:10 p.m.

**In attendance were:** John Takach, Bruce Warkentin, Joe Boucher, Rhonda Villanova, Pete Hany, Jr., and Steven Villanova

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

**Motion to Approve last Meeting Minutes** We didn't have a quorum to approve meeting minutes

**Memorial Day:** The committee reviewed the task list and what needed to be done before the Memorial Day parades and ceremonies.

John discussed the process regarding the fly-over during the Memorial Day parade at the center of town. He will need to define the timing depending on whether they are coming from Bradley or Barnes ANGB in Westfield, MA.

Al Lewandosky contacted the committee to confirm purchase of the flags for the Memorial Day events.

Bruce had the names of (2) EMS students presenting their Patriot Pen essays for the EHS ceremony on Memorial Day. (Drew Ellis and Julia Wilson) The VFW sponsors the Patriot's Pen contest every year to 6th, 7th, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders – (3) of the winners were from Ellington. Drew Ellis will also be reading Flander's Field.

Public Works will be providing a portable sound system with a mic for the cemetery services.

Rhonda will be updating the programs with new information for our next meeting. Steven will be assisting with a new cover design.

Pete has been receiving updates on participant responses from Julia at Town Hall and will construct the line of March from those participants.

Bruce will get in touch with the high school to obtain a name for someone to read Logan's Orders. Steven will be reading the Gettysburg Address.

Joe is planning to work with the Boy Scouts re: the flags before the parade (including for the Ladies Auxiliary during the EHS ceremony). Also, Joe will be confirming who or what group is now taking care of the geraniums and any other flower-planting Len Johnson used to do including the

stone/flag pole area at the center of town, the pots around the flagpole in the cemetery and the Vietnam/POW area at the library. The committee seemed to think the Beautification Committee may be doing most of it and Public Works might be taking care of the POW/MIA area.

The committee discussed whether we wanted to push for a special speaker or have an “educational” presentation regarding the POW/MIA ceremony and/or the playing of Taps (with its lyrics), having someone speak before or after the table set-up regarding the history or some background about how/why the ceremony or the playing of Taps is part of the ceremony today. Certainly, if a veteran comes forward, or is recommended by someone, to speak at the EHS ceremony, we are flexible with the plan.

Pete is in touch with Chief Nerkowski re: color guard, firing squads and marching units, will be getting confirmation by mid-May on details.

Flag Day: the flag retirement ceremony will be held on Thursday, June 14th.

\*Cheryl, we believe, will be obtaining the names of the Poppy Queens. If this is not correct, we need confirmation.

\*\*Depending on last minute details or issues, the committee may hold a special meeting on May 8<sup>th</sup>, location TBD. However, our next scheduled meeting will be held on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, less than a week before the Memorial Day events.

**Old Business:** Rhonda was able to get the information regarding the AHPC website and Gmail Wiley Dumas established. She will be forwarding certain correspondence to committee members as deemed appropriate and/or presenting them at subsequent meetings.

We have multiple vacancies on our committee – (4) adults and (1) student representative. Rhonda will contact Town Hall regarding updating the town’s site. There are still a couple of people listed that have not been to meetings in years.

Meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** May 22, 2018 - 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Submitted by:

Rhonda  
Villanova

Digitally signed by Rhonda Villanova  
DN: cn=Rhonda Villanova, o=Ad Hoc  
Patriotic Committee, ou=Secretary,  
email=jrvillanova@comcast.net, c=US  
Date: 2018.04.28 00:25:15 -04'00'