



TOWN OF ELLINGTON

Ad Hoc Patriotic Committee

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

Chairman
Bruce Warkentin.

Secretary
Rhonda Villanova



Members
Joe Boucher
Ted C. Graziani
Dennis Kayhart
Robert King
Cheryl Samborski
Christian Sauer
John Takach

Student Representative
Steven Villanova
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TOWN CLERK

October 9, 2018

Meeting called to order at 7:04 p.m.

In attendance were: John Takach, Bruce Warkentin, Joe Boucher, Cheryl Samborski, Rhonda Villanova, Dennis Kayhart, Ted Graziani and Steven Villanova

Wreaths Across America (planning and promotion):

Bruce told the committee that Tim Webb said the town could take care of everything, but we would need to break down the wreaths, pull out the wire and take off the ribbon. They could take care of the rest. We could order a dumpster.

Joe spoke with the cemetery caretaker, there's a landscaping company we could hire to do the clean-up and bring the debris to the Manchester land-fill for \$250. The Boy Scouts would not be needed. We could schedule after January 1st when the wreaths start looking bad.

Joe made a motion to hire Thomas Jaworski Landscaping to handle the WAA cleanup. Joe 1st, Cheryl 2nd. Joe will be the contact, the motion passed.

Joe mentioned a group out of Hamden that does concerts for fundraising; we could raise money for the WAA. It is too late for this year, but something to keep in mind as an option for next year, maybe a summer time concert.

John T. confirmed Boy Scouts still picking up flags in November.

Bruce will be picking up the stick-on dates from Wilson for the WAA signs.

John T. received clarified sign regulations from John Colonese. We need to reduce our signs to the 12 sq. ft – no higher than 5' tall. Sign Connection at 101 West Street in Vernon made our signs up originally. Joe B. mentioned that the current size is 4' x 8'. We will need to have them redone and put up by 10/16.

Bruce and John reported on continued issues signing up on the WAA site. Cheryl offered to contact the Enfield and South Windsor groups to see if they are having issues as well. We are Region 1; our contact at WAA is Missy. Our cemetery code is CTECCE and our group id for Ellington Patriotic Committee is CT0039.

Bruce got the WAA information to LouAnn to include in the Town Quarterly Magazine. He will also check with the JI to see if they can run it, as well as the NorthCentral News (they only print once a month, don't know if we'll make the deadline).

John T. sent in the contact form for WAA website during the meeting. Hopefully, he'll get a response from Missy.

John T. discussed his research for a public address system. He compared Bose vs Anchor brands and came up with a package solution: Titan Basic pkg B8001: includes wireless/wired mic/cable/mic stand and comes with tripod, usb jack, storage for accessories, and is powered by lithium batteries. The package costs approximately \$2522 before taxes and shipping and handling. John made a motion to move forward with a request for \$3000 to purchase the sound system package. Dennis 2nd. The motion passed. Discussion included: Ted asking whether we need approval from the Finance Committee; and Bruce mentioning he would like to also request funds to refurbish/clean the Civil War cemetery at the library.

Ted G. mentioned that Joe Palombizio represents the town with the Vets and outreach. He is getting more involved with the Veteran's Day events at the schools. Anna Turner has retired and they will be hiring someone to replace her in the Human Resources department. Ted asked whether the Patriotic Committee should be getting more involved with the planning of Veteran's Day events at the schools. He would like to see more Vets speaking. During discussion of the day's events, it was stated that in the past at the high school the Board of Education Chair would speak and usually a town and/or state representative would speak too. Currently, the elementary schools have Vets go into the classrooms to speak to the students, and have Q&A sessions with them. The middle school has the students more involved, essays are written, some speakers as well. The high school has a breakfast or brunch, there is usually a music component, various speakers and more recently they have something that feels almost like a pep rally. The tone of the event may need some guidance. The committee determined to find out who the current contacts are at the high school and speak with the event coordinators if possible before this year's event. Rhonda said she would contact the high school and get the information needed and invite whomever to our next meeting.

Rhonda mentioned that this past year when she first received the password for the committee's Gmail account and website, there had been a message from someone at the high school, maybe two years ago that had not been answered, so they had reached out to us, we just didn't realize it. This will be a good time to get back in touch with the coordinating parties.

Motion to adjourn: Joe 1st, Bruce 2nd

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Next Meeting scheduled: October 23, 2018 - 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Submitted by:

Rhonda Villanova

Digitally signed by Rhonda Villanova
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ou=Secretary, email=jvillanova@comcast.net, c=US
Date: 2018.10.19 11:56:31 -0400