



# TOWN OF ELLINGTON

## Ad Hoc Patriotic Committee

RECEIVED

18 SEP -6 AM 8:36

ELLINGTON  
TOWN CLERK

**Chairman**  
John Takach

**Vice-Chairman**  
John Chandler

**Secretary**  
Rhonda Villanova

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



**Members**  
Joe Boucher  
Ted C. Graziani  
Dennis Kayhart  
Robert King  
Sara Landon  
Cheryl Samborski  
Christian Sauer  
Bruce Warkentin

**Student Representative**  
Anthony Chamberlin  
Steven Villanova

August 27, 2019

Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m.

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

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

**Approval of last meeting minutes:** Joe B. 1<sup>st</sup>, Chris 2<sup>nd</sup>

### **New Business:**

John T. discussed the POW/MIA chair dedication ceremony at the library. The chair was created by Doris Johnson and placement coordinated with the town's Veteran Commission. Ted G. said he had pictures to send to the town office.

Bruce stated that the monuments were cleaned. Rob Binkowski said there was an issue with the older monuments – he might be able to polish them but couldn't guarantee they'd look better. The stone looks good, but they wondered if another cleaning would be helpful.

The new bronze statue being placed on the green will be positioned facing the flag, stones and the intersection. The new sign has already been placed. The statue delivery is scheduled about mid-October. They hope to have it installed by Veteran's Day. Joe Palombizio might want to have a small ceremony, the committee will check with him.

John C. mentioned the Veteran's Day ceremonies at EMS/EHS, where the veterans stop by for a morning ceremony. They are on different days so the Veterans can go to both if they wish – the EMS ceremony is the day before EHS'. Mr. Helmand and the Student Council at EHS coordinate a program that includes music and baked goods for the Veterans. The VFW and American Legion usually have a presence at both of these programs.

**WAA** – Wilson Flynn had been the point of contact the past couple of years. We switched it over last year. We tried to implement a clean-up process through the landscaper that works with the Cemetery

Association that owns and operated the cemetery. The committee was to pay the landscaper \$250 – it was supposed to be back-billed from the town to the committee. Bruce offered to be the new point of contact. He will be logging in to the WAA website to get info on timing to get people ordering wreaths. LouAnn's and Kloter's are two good places to post information for ordering. If we need new/readable signs that fit the size criteria, we can reorder from Sign Connection again. Chris said new sign regulations were posted in July. They relate to how many days the signs can be up. Joe B. said there were exemptions for the upcoming elections. John T. said he will look into the size regulations again and determine if we need new signs and we will then need to determine where to place existing signs. Joe B. also mentioned we will need stickers with this year's WAA Ceremony date to go over last year's signs. Rhonda mentioned posting on the Ellington Friends Facebook page again. There are people who also share it from there. The town posts the notice on its page and it has been included in the quarterly town info magazine.

Regarding the billing for flags mentioned at the last meeting, the American Legion orders the flags and charges to the Patriotic Committee. We need some medallions, which the American Legion orders, and we're a little behind. The committee needs to invite Al Lewandoski to a meeting to discuss medallion orders.

Joe B. is trying to track Veteran burials via spreadsheet, the only way he knows if the deceased is a Vet is if the obituary mentions it. There are 3 – 12 burials a month. The cemetery has a grid system to track, but it needs to be base-lined. John C. has software to run info through that might help in this matter. John T. mentioned the Boy Scouts might also have some information to cross-reference.

Ted G. asked about "Thank You" notes for Memorial Day and if John T. had signed any. John said he had not. It seems something that used to be initiated from the town offices, but there have been some reassignments. John T. will check with the town office. Cheryl suggested the task be added to our master task list for Memorial Day.

**Motion to adjourn:** Cheryl 1st, Chris 2nd  
Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

**Next meeting:** September 24th, 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall meeting room unless notified otherwise.

Submitted by:  
Rhonda Villanova

Rhonda  
Villanova

Digitally signed by Rhonda Villanova  
DN: cn=Rhonda Villanova, o=Ellington  
Patriotic Committee, ou=Secretary,  
email=RhondaVillanova@comcast.net, c=US  
Date: 2019.09.05 16:44:12 -0400