

**MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF
THE HAMDEN VETERANS COMMISSION,
SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITY ROOM – MILLER COMPLEX
TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2020**

Commissioners Present: Mr. Best, Ms. Goodwin, Mr. Jackson, Mr. Lewis, Ms. Lupi
Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Oakes, Mr. Rountree, Mr. Shepard, Mr. Weil

Commissioners Absent: Mr. MacMullen

Guests: Phil Goodwin

Approval of Minutes – December 3, 2019 – APPROVED.

Veterans Awareness Day #20 – May 22, 2020 – Mr. Shepard reported that this year they're going with the elementary schools, the 6th graders. The Council for Legal Redress has confirmed they are a go. It's going to be all 6th graders in the Town and it's going to be a full house. They are on track. Assignments will be made. There are people to notify. He added "all of us who had a school assigned for Veterans Day those same people will be asked to contact their schools – talk to them, tell them what to expect at VAD". Mr. Shepard will make up last year's teacher's supplement so they can get an idea what to look for. There will be a new one for this year.

Mr. Weil noted the HVC needs to meet to revise the book. Mr. Mitchell asked for a script so each Commissioner is giving the same info. Ms. Lupi thought it would be helpful if we get the newest flyer sent to everyone so they can post it on their smart board. There was discussion on the VAD video & snap shots of the event online.

Shepard Glen & Church Street School have not been heard from yet. Mr. Jackson, Mr. Weil and Ms. Lupi will work with Mr. Shepard on the Booklet.

Memorial Day Parade – May 25, 2020 – There will be a meeting Thursday in the Mayor's Office to start the process. Mr. Oakes reported that in the past Patrick Donnelly received the emails from various Parade participants. This year a separate email is being set up for the Parade communications – MemorialDayParade@Hamden.com.

The ceremony will be held at the Middle School. The various organizations will be given options on the presentations of the wreaths. Mr. Mitchell asked Ms. Lupi to check on the stands to mount the wreaths on. She will contact Flowers from the Farm.

Regarding the bands, Ms. Lupi reported that many of the bands are committed to their specific towns on Memorial Day. This will be further discussed at Thursday's meeting. Mr. Oakes noted the four funeral homes and the Women's Organization here will once again donate for the purchase of the flags.

Sentencing for Kevin Creed re Fisher House – Mr. Oakes reported that he was contacted by the State of CT concerning the lawsuit against Kevin Creed. They wanted him to ask the HVC to write up something regarding the experience with Mr. Creed and the fundraising for Fisher House.

It wasn't money from the HVC it was money from all the organizations, the people who donated at Shop Rite and various other donations. The trial is scheduled for January 22nd.

Mr. Weil and Mr. Lewis also received letters from the State regarding the trial.

Update on Kiosk Freedom Park – Ms. Lupi shared photos of the 2 options for the Kiosk. After brief discussion it was agreed to go with the smaller pedestal type Kiosk. When completed and installed Ms. Lupi will try to get the kids who did the brochure to attend the dedication.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:13p

Submitted by: Deborah Gaiolini
Deborah Gaiolini, HVC Clerk