

MINUTES
TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD
COMMISSION ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS
June 18, 7:00 PM

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER, 7:00 PM

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Adam Raider (Secretary), John Johnson, John Rixon, Randy Malloy, Chris Barnes (Council Liaison), Renee McCue (Town of West Hartford). Excused: Harriet Winograd, Garrett Sheehan (Chair), Kate Hamilton, Alberto Cortes. Absent: Louise Psaras.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Rixon moved and Mr. Johnson seconded to approve the meeting minutes from April 24, 2019.

4. MEMORIAL DAY RECAP

Ms. McCue said the 2019 Memorial Day Parade seemed to be better organized than 2018, thanks in part to having several more adult volunteers. Only a few student volunteers scheduled to participate were absent. The vintage military truck driven by Sack Energy was well-received and the Commission agreed it should be used again in the future. Mr. Rixon noted, however, that the veteran passengers were disappointed to have missed the ceremony because their drop-off location was far from the Memorial. It was suggested that if the truck is going to be used again to transport veterans, a different drop-off location should be identified – perhaps the parking lot on Brace Road.

The Commission agreed that the ceremony following the parade was well-attended, perhaps thanks to a banner carried during the parade inviting spectators to the Veterans Memorial. Mr. Barnes said he hoped that next year's speaking program will include the American Legion's Moe Fradette, who usually reads off the list of names of West Hartford high schoolers entering the military.

Mr. Raider wondered if Gold Star Families could be invited to march in next year's parade.

Mr. Raider thanked Ms. McCue on behalf of the Commission for all of her hard work in organizing the 2019 Memorial Day parade and ceremony.

5. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Rixon said he will research the passing of any West Hartford veterans from Memorial Day 2019 through next May so that their names can be read aloud at the 2020 ceremony.

The Commission also discussed "The Moving Wall," a traveling replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial that last came to West Hartford in June 2010. Mr. Rixon said the Town paid for the memorial to be displayed outside Town Hall, but could not recall the exact cost. Mr. Raider suggested the Commission look into bringing The Moving Wall back to West Hartford in the future.

6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Malloy moved and Mr. Rixon seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 PM. Next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 17 at 7:00 PM in Room 308.

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Adam Raider". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "A".

Adam Raider
Commission Secretary