



Chairman
John Takach

Vice-Chairman
John Chandler

Secretary
Rhonda Villanova

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

Ad Hoc Patriotic Committee

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Members
Joe Boucher
Ted C. Graziani
Sara Landon
Cheryl Samborski
Christian Sauer
Bruce Warkentin

Student Representative
Steven Villanova

March 24, 2020

Teleconference meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m.

In attendance: John Takach, John Chandler, Steven Villanova, Bruce Warkentin, Christian Sauer, Cheryl Samborski, Joe Boucher, Ted Graziani; Rhonda Villanova joined the call later

Approval of last meeting minutes: Chris 1st, Cheryl 2nd; all approved

Memorial Day: General discussion about the amount of planning required with many unknown variables in the current statewide environment of reduced workforce and ability to directly interact. Ted suggested combining Memorial Day with July 4 observance on suggestion from Lori Bernstein. Some of the associated logistics were discussed. In the end, Cheryl took an action to see how other towns are proceeding. The committee determined to carry on with planning with the current timeline for a traditional Memorial Day ceremony.

Logistics discussion from above: Bruce – suggest ceremony at town green and cemetery. Joe – Better to minimize to cemetery. John T – think about alternate date / timing.

Action for Steven to please proceed with flyover request. Reach out to John T. or John C. for assistance. Request should be open-ended for the military to determine various aircraft availability.

Action for John T – Ask Town to start letters.

Action for Chris and John – Find out the town's previous process for ordering flags and medallions. (As of 3/27, Finance office has the question. Awaiting response).

Discussion regarding speaker: Members liked the idea of compiling information regarding the 17 Ellington fallen and reading it out. This could be something for Middle School students to research and present in following years. For this year, Bruce reached out to Mickey Stupinski to see what he has already gathered for his project researching the Ellington fallen. Another idea from Bruce was to have the Voice of Democracy Essay winner read their piece. This would take only about 5 minutes at the most. Again, no specific action was taken at this time, but should be discussed again.

Rhonda brought up that the AHPC should have Mickey's contact details and gathered information in our files.

Action for Cheryl – Contact both pastors for benedictions.

Action for John T. – Contact Pete Hany for Fire Department engagement.

Questions arose regarding High School band interaction if there is no more school.

Action for John T. – discuss with Town, statement on letters regarding contingency plan. Especially regarding Mr. Delassus and the high school band.

For April discussion – Annual items such as Middle and High school speakers.

New business: We were supposed to have a presentation from Boy Scout Drew Ellis, Ellington 10th Grader, regarding his Eagle Scout project proposal. The nature of the project compelled him to get buy-in from the AHPC. Due to the sequestration circumstances, he asked John T. to introduce on his behalf. The project is regarding the manufacture and management of 4 flag retirement bins to be placed around town and managed by the Boy Scouts. The committee was enthusiastic about the idea, acknowledging that the current method of collection is rather random, and that this would be mutually beneficial for the Scouts, the committee, the American Legion, and the Town. Chris asked if the committee could donate to this – John T. acknowledged that we would certainly try.

Motion to adjourn: John T. 1st; Cheryl 2nd

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m

Next mtg: scheduled for April 28, 2020, Town Hall Meeting Room unless social measures still in place, 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by:
John Takach and
Rhonda Villanova

Rhonda
Villanova

Digitally signed by Rhonda Villanova
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Date: 2020.04.01 09:56:00 -0407