



TOWN OF SUFFIELD

**MEETING MINUTES
VETERANS MEMORIAL EXPANSION COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
April 10, 2023, 6:00 p.m.
IN-PERSON MEETING ONLY**

**Location: Suffield Police Station Conference Room
911 Mountain Road Suffield, CT**

Meeting Name: Veterans Memorial Expansion Committee

By: Rebecca Sypek - Recording Secretary

Type of Meeting: Regular Meeting

Veterans Memorial Expansion Committee Members Present

Dave Gauthier, Chairman
Kevin Goff
Salvatore Covino
Chris Nikolis
David Shute

Veterans Memorial Expansion Committee Members Absent

Tom Elmore
Fredrick (Fritz) King
William Moryto, Vice Chairman
Raymond Hartford

Dave Gauthier called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and began with the Pledge of Allegiance. He asked for a roll call identifying members present at the meeting.

Public Comment

None

Approval of the Minutes

Approval of the Minutes from the Regular Meetings held on March 13, 2023. Kevin Goff motioned to approve the minutes, and Salvatore Covino seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Discuss the extent of additions and changes to Veterans Park

Dave Gauthier recapped the previous meeting's discussion about new memorial options. One thing to think about for future discussion is if the Committee wants to include the POW/MIA emblem to the memorial portion to honor "All Veterans" or add a POW/MIA flag to the flag pole.

Discuss and approve Phase two war/conflict requirements

The application form was discussed previous to the meeting via email and all Committee members agreed to qualification criteria for this edition of the Memorial expansion.

After brief discussion, a motion was made to approve the dates of the eligibility for this edition of the Memorial expansion for The Global War on Terror (September 11, 2001 – August 31, 2021). David Shute motioned to approve, and Chris Nikolis seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion and approval of application form

After further discussion and requests for edit, a motion was made to approve the nomination form dated today (4/10/2023) with requested edits reflected. Salvatore Covino motioned to approve, and David Shute seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Other Business and Next Steps

There was discussion about advertising options for veterans who don't currently live in Suffield. There will be multiple articles in the Suffield Observer, the first hopefully being in May's edition, but there was also discussion on advertising through different Facebook pages and town websites. Kevin Goff also recommended the option of creating a QR code that could be posted at the memorial and other locations around town that would take people to the nomination form.

There was discussion of putting a deadline date for accepting applications. For now, the Committee won't advertise a deadline but may do so later.

There was also discussion about if people would be notified if they didn't qualify. David Gauthier said yes, he has emailed them personally previously and will continue to do that going forward.

The ideal goal for the Committee will be to have the memorial revealed by Veterans Day 2024, with opportunities for additional names to be added in the future.

Public Comment

None

A Regular Meeting of the Veterans Memorial Expansion Committee will be held on Monday, May 8, 2023, at 6 p.m.

Dave Gauthier motioned to adjourn; everyone seconded at 6:59 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Sypek
Recording Secretary