



TOWN OF SUFFIELD

**MEETING MINUTES
VETERANS MEMORIAL EXPANSION COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
December 11, 2023, 6:00 p.m.
IN-PERSON AND ZOOM MEETING**

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

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81390960772?pwd=MEh1cW5jVGhJNkpVQ2tHVk1BeWV2Zz09>

Zoom Call In Number: 1 646 876 9923

Meeting ID: 813 9096 0772

Password: 891023

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 – Present via Zoom

Kevin Goff

Tom Elmore

Raymond Hartford

Veterans Memorial Expansion Committee Members Absent

Frederick (Fritz) King

Salvatore Covino

David Shute

Chris Nikolis

William Moryto, Vice Chairman

Dave Gauthier called the meeting to order at 6:03 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 Meeting held on November 13, 2023 is postponed due to lack of quorum.

Discuss and approve memorial base vertical finish, either steeled or rock pitched

The members present discussed the memorial base and if it would be a steeled finish, meaning a smooth base, or rock pitched, meaning it would be rough to reduce the visibility of any potential damage due to snow removal or landscaping or anything else. The existing memorial is steeled finish and is already showing signs of damage due to snow removal. The present members agreed that rough finish would probably be best but will make final vote when there is a quorum.

Application Status

Dave Gauthier went in front of the design review board, and they all approved the design idea quickly and unanimously. The Historic District Committee, however, was concerned about the new memorial stones obstructing the view of the existing memorial and had some concerns over the base design. After discussion, the Historic District Committee agreed with the size of the memorial; however, they were worried about the placement. Dave made different mockups to put up for the Historic District Committee to see it in person. The mockup that was more spaced apart and had the memorials slightly shorter and wider seemed to be the preferred of all the options thus far. The Committee discussed other options, but nothing could be finalized due to lack of quorum. Dave said he would make another mockup with, hopefully, the finalized design size and spacing.

Other Business and Next Steps

Dave Gauthier said the Committee needs to push to get additional names submitted. Ideas would be to try going through the school system and the local recruiting station, as well as an additional Observer article and additional social media posts.

Public Comment

None

A Regular Meeting of the Veterans Memorial Expansion Committee will be held on Monday, January 8, 2024, at 6 p.m.

Dave Gauthier adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Sypek
Recording Secretary