



TOWN OF SUFFIELD

**MEETING MINUTES
VETERANS MEMORIAL EXPANSION COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
February 12, 2024, 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
Frederick (Fritz) King
Tom Elmore
David Shute
William Moryto, Vice Chairman

Veterans Memorial Expansion Committee Members Absent

Kevin Goff
Raymond Hartford
Salvatore Covino
Chris Nikolis

Dave Gauthier called the meeting to order at 6:01 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 January 8, 2024. Fritz King motioned to approve the minutes, and William Moryto seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Discuss changing eligibility end date for Global War on Terror

Dave Gauthier went back and re-evaluated the Committee's agreed upon end date for the Global War on Terror. The prior agreed upon end date was based on a speech; however, there have been Dept. of Defense service medals awarded, with an eligibility end date of September 10, 2022. Dave recommended that this be the Committee's eligibility cutoff date as well since this is based on Dept. of Defense documentation vs just a speech.

Motion to update the eligibility dates for the Global War on Terror from September 11, 2001 to September 10, 2022, to coincide with the Global War on Terror service medal dates. William Moryto motioned to approve, and David Shute seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to extend eligibility to those who have been awarded the Global War on Terror service medal effective September 11, 2022, until Department of Defense ends eligibility for said medal. William Moryto motioned to approve, and David Shute seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Application Status

Dave Gauthier has 30 applications thus far. He made a mock draft of what the new memorial would look like with only the 30 names, leaving space for names to be added in roughly alphabetical order. He wanted the Committee's opinion on leaving space like that vs putting the 30 names and then adding names as they come in out of alphabetical order. Tom Elmore suggested possibly changing the format to accommodate another conflict below the Global War on Terror section, instead of having space for another conflict next to it. Dave said he would create another mock draft so the Committee can see what other options would look like.

Other Business and Next Steps

All required town approvals have been obtained allowing the Town to go out to bid for the construction of the new monuments. They include the Design Review Board, Historic District Commission, and Planning and Zoning. The bids are due this Thursday.

Dave Gauthier said he will contact Kevin Goff to update the dates per motions passed today for different documents and websites as necessary. Dave also said that he would re-post advertisements on different social media platforms.

Public Comment

None

A Regular Meeting of the Veterans Memorial Expansion Committee will be held on Monday, March 11, 2024, at 6 p.m.

Fritz King motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:52 p.m. All seconded and motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Sypek

Recording Secretary