



STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND  
INCORPORATED 1786

# TOWN OF ELLINGTON

## Ad Hoc Patriotic Committee

**Chairman**  
Christian Sauer

**Vice-Chairman**  
John Takach

**Secretary**  
Rhonda Villanova

55 MAIN STREET – PO BOX 187  
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187



**Members**  
Joe Boucher  
Sara Landon  
James Lavey  
Cheryl Samborski  
Bruce Warkentin  
Christian Cuthbert

**Student Representative**  
John M. Takach  
Logan Takach  
Steven Villanova

January 23, 2024

**Present:** Christian Sauer, Chairman  
John Takach, Vice-Chairman  
Rhonda Villanova, Secretary  
Bruce Warkentin  
James Lavey  
Logan Takach

**Meeting called to order at 7:06 p.m. by Chair Chris Sauer**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Approval of Meeting Minutes:** postponed until February meeting due to lack of a quorum.

**Election of Officers:** postponed until February meeting due to lack of a quorum.

**Old Business:**

Chair Chris Sauer reported the final wreath tally was 658 for the December WAA ceremony. There are currently 26 wreaths credited for the 2024 ceremony. A check for \$800 was given to Bruce Warkentin for WAA end of year donations. Chris' overview of the 2023 WAA ceremony was that it went well, the weather was good and he was not aware of any complaints. Bruce asked if Chris signed the receipt WAA needs to be signed. Chris said he would take care of it.

John Takach reported the Boy Scouts were running out of storage space for the flags for retirement. They may need a mid-cycle flag retirement ceremony, not just the annual June ceremony. Asked to estimate how many flags they had, the number was between 2,000 – 3,000. There has been an issue with the number of synthetic fiber flags which melt and can be toxic upon burning versus the cotton flags, which burn well. There are procedures to properly discard flags. John will look into other methods that are acceptable. Rhonda Villanova noted the flag bin at the library always seems full, but not sure if it is still full, or full again. She commented that the contact name/term on the side of the bin needs to be updated.

John Takach also reported that the speaker that was ordered has not shipped yet, should be within the next couple of weeks.

**New Business:**

Chris Sauer stated planning for Memorial Day will begin on February 1<sup>st</sup>. The town office personnel will be sending out forms for permits: DOT, State Police, road closures, etc... At the next meeting the committee can review the task list: flyover, speaker selection, etc...

**Motion to adjourn:** Warkentin 1<sup>st</sup>, Takach 2<sup>nd</sup> ; all in favor, motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:38 pm.

**Next Meeting:** February 27, 2024, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall Meeting Room unless notified otherwise.

Submitted by:  
Rhonda Villanova  
AHPC Secretary

