

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
VETERANS MEMORIAL EXPANSION COMMITTEE**

**August 12, 2024**

**6:00 P.M.**

**Suffield Police Station Conference Room, 911 Mountain Road, Suffield CT  
In-Person Meeting Only**

**Veterans Memorial Expansion Committee Members Present:**

Dave Gauthier, Chairman  
Frederick (Fritz) King  
William Moryto  
Tom Elmore  
Sal Covino  
Raymond Hartford  
David Shute  
Chris Nikolis

**Veterans Memorial Expansion Committee Members Absent:**

Kevin Goff

Chairman Gauthier called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and asked everyone to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Comment**

Sarah Donahue, 39 Chapman Chase, Windsor Locks and Deborah Haeseler, 6 Oxford Drive, Suffield - Ms. Donahue and Ms. Haeseler spoke on behalf of the Sibbil Dwight Kent Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). Ms. Donahue referenced a document that had been sent to Chairman Gauthier listing approximately forty-four Revolutionary War Patriots whose names are not on the Suffield Memorial. She explained the process they followed in compiling the list. She explained that as the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Revolutionary War approaches, it is important to bring these names to the group's attention and have these names added to the Veterans Memorial. Chairman Gauthier explained the eligibility requirements for inclusion on the monument and agreed that was the right thing to do for any of the Patriots who fulfill the eligibility requirements at the time. He explained that it may be a daunting task as the current monument only went back as far as World War I. Ms. Donahue and Ms. Haeseler offered their assistance in gathering information. Chairman Gauthier also noted that this type of work would not be included in the current charge of the committee, however, he would be happy to go back to the town to seek permission. The committee thanked Ms. Donahue and Ms. Haeseler for their commitment and dedication to recognizing those Patriots that may have been overlooked.

**Approval of the Minutes from the Regular Meeting held on July 8, 2024**

D. Shute MOTIONED and S. Covino seconded to approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting held on July 8, 2024.

Vote: 8-0 in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of the Minutes from the Special Meeting held on July 15, 2024**

F. King MOTIONED and R. Hartford seconded to approve the Minutes from the Special Meeting held on July 15, 2024.

Vote: 8-0 in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

**Review the Suffield Veterans Memorial Eligibility for any needed changes**

Chairman Gauthier referenced the most updated Suffield Veterans Memorial Eligibility Document (See attached) which was approved on July 15, 2024 and asked the group if they had anything additional they felt would be important to include. He reviewed the document with all and a brief discussion ensued. All were in agreement that the document, as it was approved on July 15, 2024, should stand as the final version.

D. Shute MOTIONED and F. King seconded to accept the Suffield Veterans Memorial Eligibility document as defined on July 15, 2024. Vote: 8-0 in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Applicant review status**

Chairman Gauthier provided a document displaying the CAD drawing which included all of the approved names. This document was submitted to Rogers Memorial last week. Rogers Memorial must submit the document to the quarry, Rock of Ages, by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month in order for the work to begin. Chairman Gauthier also noted that there were two individuals whose names had been submitted for inclusion, however, they did NOT want their names on the new memorial. He stressed that this was a perfect example of why the process must include buy-off from the actual individual as opposed to a family member or other individual acting on their behalf.

### **Other Business and Next Steps**

Chairman Gauthier discussed the need for some type of lighting for the new memorial. He suggested “well lights” as a possible option, noting that the type of lighting on the existing memorial is not ideal as it shines directly in the eyes of visitors. The group discussed the well lights and considered it to be a good idea. Other recommendations for the site included mulching the area once the memorial monument installation has been completed. The concrete work is scheduled to be done soon, with Rogers Memorial requesting that the area be staked out in advance, which Chairman Gauthier agreed to do. B. Moryto noted that he had spoken with the Chairman of the Historic District Commission, Doug Mayne, and the work will require a certificate of appropriateness. The installation is expected to be completed prior to Veterans Day.

### **Public Comment**

None.

### **Executive Session – Security Item Discussion**

F. King MOTIONED and R. Hartford seconded to enter Executive Session to discuss Security Item at 6:31 p.m. Vote: 8-0 in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

Executive session ended at 6:37 p.m.

### **Action on Executive Session**

None

**D. Shute MOTIONED and S. Covino seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:38 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen O. Lambert  
Recording Secretary

# Suffield Veterans Memorial Eligibility

- Men and Women whose principal residence was in the Town of Suffield when they entered active duty. OR: (Commencing with the Global War on Terror Memorial) when they graduated high school or secondary school.
- Service Branches include Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard and Space Force.
- Service must have been other than dishonorable.
- DD214 and/or other supporting documents must be submitted for review.
- Must be requested by the veteran if living.

<b>War/Conflict:</b>	<b>Dates:</b>	<b>Reference:</b>
<b>Original Memorial</b>		
WWI	Apr 6, 1917 - Nov 11, 1918	Title 38 USC
WWII	Dec 7, 1941 – Dec 31, 1946	Title 38 USC
Korea	Jun 27, 1950 – Jan 31, 1955	Title 38 USC
Vietnam In Country	Nov 1, 1955 – Aug 4, 1964	Title 38 USC
Vietnam All Other Cases	Aug 5, 1964 – May 7, 1975	Title 38 USC
Persian Gulf	Aug 2, 1990 – Apr 11, 1991	Title 38 USC /Congressional Research Service (CRS)
<b>New Memorial</b>		
Global War on Terror	Sep 11, 2001 - Sep 10, 2022	CRS / GWOTSM Revision
Global War on Terror <sup>1</sup>	Sep 11, 2022 - Present	GWOTSM Revision
Suffield Veterans <sup>2</sup>	All Dates	BOS 11/16/2022

1. Active Duty/Veteran must be awarded the GWOTSM.
2. Separate memorial to honor all Suffield veterans without individual names.

Notes:

- A. Active Duty is other than Active Duty for Training.
- B. United States citizenship not required.
- C. Specific location or length of service is not a determining factor (except for Vietnam).
- D. Documentation confirming eligibility (DD214 or other if not available) is required.
- E. Must be requested by Veteran if living.

\*Denotes Died in Service, or as a result.

Periods of War are from Title 38 United States Code (USC) Veterans Benefits Section 101, as may be amended from time to time, and the Congressional Research Service.