



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
Jacob Cawthorn
Christian Cuthbert
Paul Fiasconaro
Sara Landon
John O'Shaughnessy
Cheryl Samborski
Student Representative
Kashish Koul
Aarush Kumar
Logan Takach

March 24, 2026

Present: Chris Sauer, John Takach, Joseph Boucher, Rhonda Villanova, John O'Shaughnessy, and Cheryl Samborski; via ZOOM: Aarush Kumar

Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chris Sauer

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Motion to approve January 27, 2026 meeting minutes; Takach 1st; O'Shaughnessy 2nd; all in favor, motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

John Takach will be contacting the company, Liberty Flagpoles, regarding the flag pole and accessories.

Chris Sauer reported that all the permits were in place for the Memorial Day parades. John Takach shared that the fly-over paperwork was done.

Aarush Kumar will check his availability for the EHS ceremony to read the Gettysberg Address. If he is not available, Aarush will touch base with Mr. Byrne for a student from one of his classes to participate. Aarush will also check with Kashish Koul for her participation. If she is no longer participating in the committee, Mr. Byrne may need to find a second student to read Logan's General Order Number 11.

John Takach will contact the music department, both Mr. Delassus and Mr. Diamond. Buglers are needed for the cemetery portions of Crystal Lake and Ellington Center ceremonies. A singer(s) is/are needed for the National Anthem for Crystal Lake, the EHS ceremony, and the Town Center.

Joe Boucher mentioned including a notice for the America 250 celebration in the Memorial Day program. The America 250 committee's "Save the Date" flyer can be an insert. Rhonda Villanova will request the file from Rebecca Einseidel.

Chris Sauer will contact Ted Graziani regarding the Patriot's Pen (VFW) essay winners. Ted has taken over from Dennis Kayhart after Bruce Warkentin moved out of state.

Chris Sauer will ask Laurie Burstein if she would like to provide a proclamation of her own.

Cheryl Samborski will contact the Historical Society for contacts of costumed re-enactors (US military, any/all wars) to march in both Memorial Day parades.

New Business:

The Veteran Banner program has started up again. The town has a notice on their website for applicants with a deadline of April 1st. Chris Sauer has three applicants. The Human Services department has 3 or 4 names and the committee will add the next 3 names from the town Roll Call: Pvt. Ernest Hoffman, Boatswain Mate 1st Class Thomas J. Labock, and Cpl. Stephen James Lukasiawski.

Motion to sponsor 3 banners for the Veteran Banner program; Samborski 1st, O'Shaughnessy 2nd; all in favor, motion passed unanimously.

Motion to adjourn: O'Shaughnessy 1st, Samborski 2nd; all in favor, motion passed unanimously.
Meeting adjourned at 7:57p.m.

Next Meeting: April 28, 2026, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall Meeting Room unless notified otherwise.

Submitted by:
Rhonda Villanova
AHPC Secretary

