
Absent: Connor Martin

Pledge of Allegiance with a moment of silence for the fallen led by Art Parker.

1. CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Cook called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

2. AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA: Noted by James Shelmerdine Jr.
   - Flying the Korean Flag on June 25, 2022
   - POW MIA Assembly on Sept 16, 2022

3. ROLL CALL: As indicated above.

4. OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES for May 11, 2022 meeting.

   MOTION By James Shelmerdine, Jr.
   Seconded by Vincent Parys
   Motion carried 8/0

6. COMMUNICATION AND INVOICES
   a. A motion was made to approve expense incurred by Tim Siggia for Memorial Day in the amount of $34.48

      MOTION By Paul Barry
      Seconded by James Shelmerdine, Jr.
      Motion carried 8/0

   b. Establishment of biography contest for high school students for East Hartford’s Gold Star names. Winners to receive $500 scholarship. Commitment from Senator Anwar of funding for 4 years.

      Chair John Cook stated that he wondered if the VFW or the VVA is willing to match the scholarship. Paul Barry said he will approach the VVA and Richard Bates also stated that he will approach the state-level VFW to contribute. Mr. Cook spoke of someone from the Glastonbury American Legion who suggested that the East Hartford American Legion should be approached to see if they will contribute and will share when he receives a reply.

   c. Need rules and procedures for submission of scholarship applications. (See attached draft copy).
7. OLD BUSINESS
   a) Report of Memorial Day Parade.
      Everyone agreed that the Committee did a Great job and just a few minor issues
      o Shorter speeches.
      o Making sure vehicles are in good working condition.
      o More signage.
      o Give parking passes to parade/event participants.
      o Water stations near tents and tents near the reviewing stand.
      o Better communication to allocate resources.

8. NEW BUSINESS
   a. Order flags for Veteran Day and approve expenses
      A motion was made to authorize Commission members to order flags for Veterans Day and expenses not to exceed $4,800.00.
      
      MOTION By Richard Bates
                 Seconded by Vincent Parys
                 Motion carried 8/0

   b. Flying the Korean War flag on June 25, 2022
      A motion was made to approach the Mayor’s office to raise the ROK flag to commemorate the start of the Korean war on June 25, 2022.
      
      MOTION By Richard Bates
                 Seconded by Vincent Parys
                 Motion carried 8/0

   C. POW MIA Assembly on Sept 16, 2022
      A ceremony of the POW MIA will be held at the bridge by the Hillside Ceremony to commemorate the POW MIA on Sept 16, 2022. John Cook will contact the Mayor’s office to schedule.

9. ADJOURNMENT
   A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 pm
   
   MOTION By Richard Bates
              Seconded by Timothy Siggia
              Motion carried 7/0

The next meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2022.

Respectfully submitted by: Juliet D. Relph, Clerk
East Hartford Veterans Commission

Gold Star Honor Roll Essay Scholarship

Rules

1. Open to:
   a. Residents of East Hartford who are:
      i. High School seniors and
      ii. College Bound

2. Biography is to be based on a person who is listed on East Hartford’s Gold Star Honor Roll.

3. The biography cannot be based on a person whose biography has previously been selected for a scholarship.

4. Biography will be judged based:
   a. Development of the human side of the subject,
   b. Factual references,
   c. Proper documentation and research.

5. Award will be made by a committee appointed by the East Hartford Veterans Commission based on these rules.

6. The award will be paid to the College/University for tuition of the recipient.

Wednesday, June 8, 2022