VETERANS COMMISSION MEETING

740 MAIN STREET

EAST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

East Hartford Community Cultural Center - Room 111

September 12, 2023- 7:00 pm

Present: John Cook, Richard Bates, Howard Satalino, Art Parker, Candy Guastamachio, Robin Parys, and Juliet Relph, Clerk.

Absent: Paul Barry and James Shelmerdine Jr.

Pledge of Allegiance with a moment of silence led by Richard Bates.

- 1) CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner John Cook called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm
- 2) AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA: Amended to include Honorarium for the EHHS Band which is being processed per our past vote.
- 3) ROLL CALL: As indicated above.
- 4) OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION None
- 5) APPROVAL OF MINUTES for June 13, 2023, meeting.

MOTION By Howard Satalino

Seconded by Art Parker

Motion carried 6/0

- 6) COMMUNICATION AND INVOICES
 - Communication was received from the recipient of the scholarship.
 - Delay in getting funds Commissioner Cook authorized the funds and was mailed to college on August 22, 2023.

A motion was made that in the future, the scholarship award will be paid directly to the recipient instead of the College, based on their enrollment in college, and paid tuition with a minimum of 6 credit hours.

MOTION By Candy Guastamachio

Seconded by Robin Parys

Motion carried 6/0

- 7) OLD BUSINESS
 - a) Biography contest for high school students
 - Craig Jordan is having a meeting to review the theme of the contest.
 - Making amendments to the website to list winners and their essays
 - Biography shared with the Historical Society

- b) Flag retirement area
 - Place at Hillside cemetery.
 - Town should come up with a procedure to follow retirement of flags.
 - The Boys Scouts and the American Legion all have procedures.
 - Richard Bates will take the lead of this process.
- c) Town of East Hartford development plan scheduled for Wednesday, Sept 13, 2023

A discussion was held regarding the questionnaire received from the Town's Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD)

This POCD effort includes an outreach effort to East Hartford's departments, boards, and commissions to learn about their issues, concerns, and current initiatives, and to provide input on the POCD's priorities and recommendations.

Some issues that were discussed:

- Getting veterans to assist other veterans.
- Channel 5 Veterans' corner
- Burial space for veterans Town needs veteran cemetery
- Firepit for flag disposal
- Flag protocol issues at Town hall.

8) NEW BUSINESS

- a) Inventory of grave flags for Veterans Day do we need to order.
 - Richard Bates will conduct inventory of grave flags and report to the Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm

MOTION By Art Parker

Seconded by Howard Satalino

Motion carried 6/0

The next meeting is scheduled for October 10, 2023

Respectfully submitted by: Juliet D. Relph, Clerk