

Susan Debarber

From: john stelma <ctbuckeyejohn@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 30, 2017 7:11 PM
To: Alex Danka; Bettyb0026; Fred Stanek; Preet Singh; John Stelma; Susan Debarber
Subject: Minutes-Memorial Day Committee Meeting October 12, 2017

Memorial Day Committee Minutes
Monthly Meeting
October 12, 2017 7 p.m.

Meeting was called to order 7:11 pm

Members Present- Alex Danka, Beverly Kennedy, John Stelma, Preet Singh, Fred Stanek

Members Absent- none

Motion was made by Preet Singh to approve of the minutes from the September meeting and seconded by John Stelma. vote to approve was 3-0-2 with Beverly Kennedy and Fred Stanek abstaining.

Public Comment- Fred Stanek was welcomed to the meeting and accepted as a committee member.

New Business-Alex Danka to contact Town Hall as well as the VFW and American Legion for the purpose of obtaining the names of all recipients in our area who were awarded the Purple Heart so that a list can be compiled to be able to invite all of the recipients to march in the 2018 Memorial Day Parade.

Mike Casey will be in charge of finding a speaker for the 2018 parade. Fred Stanek will return as the Master of Ceremonies. Ron Callanan will be the Grand Marshall for the Parade.

It was suggested by Fred and brought to the attention of the committee by John to have the Master of Ceremonies add color commentary to each of the groups as they pass by the reviewing stand to add to the interest of the spectators at the parade. It was suggested to have each group submit a paragraph of information perhaps asking for the information when the contracts are sent out.

It was also suggested to cut back on the number of speakers as well as the length of the speeches.

The signage for dignitaries that are in the parade in cars or walking was mentioned so that spectators will know who they are.

Streaming the parade on Facebook was also mentioned.

Alex will contact Priscilla in Town Hall with a list of businesses to solicit for funds so that she may get addresses and labels so that the solicitations will be mailed out in January, February, or March. Estimates call for 30 pages of 24 names to be printed out.

It was also suggested that we seek additional school bands to participate in the parade with possibilities being Ansonia, Torrington, Naugatuck.

Two people will again dress up in costumes and walk along the parade route as they did last year. We have the costumes from last year. In addition we will also seek out people to dress as soldiers in period costumes. Alex will contact Paul Lucke from the Seymour High School Drama Club to see if there is interest in this venture. He will also see if there is interest on the part of other interest groups in the Seymour Schools to participate in the parade next year as well as Tottenham Dance Studios.

The participation of all board members from the town as well as the superintendent and employees of the town would also be asked to see if they would be interested in marching or riding in the parade so that the townspeople would be able to see them. Kurt Miller will be asked to send the letters to the various boards. The office of the First Selectman will also be asked to have more information and advertising of the parade on the town's website. There will also be additional publicity generated through various local newspapers as well.

Letters will be sent out as well to the High School and various clubs to try to get them involved in the parade as well.

It was decided by the committee to have a check sent to the pre-parade band that performed prior to the 2017 parade. A check in the amount of \$250.00 will be sent to the band organizer Mark Forte.

A letter was presented to the committee by John Stelma to be used to inform Liberty Bank of the changes in membership and officers for the purpose of accessing the accounts. Minutes from the September meeting will accompany the letter to the bank.

Alex will talk to the American Legion to see if they have any additional ideas of what they would like done in the parade. Will also talk to Mike Casey to see if he would be interested in joining the committee.

It was brought up to the committee that the town was in possession of speakers and would not necessarily be in need of the additional monies normally spent on having a DJ on the day of the parade.

Alex will contact Ron Callanan about the keys to the bank box.

Beverly Kennedy will bring the labels to Alex as well as the contracts for the bands.

Fred Stanek will mention the ideas we have presented to get the schools involved in the parade at the next Board of Education meeting.

Additional idea of a food drive at voting booths and the parade using town trucks stationed at buildings in town was also proposed to the committee.

The Committee will submit a full schedule of meetings for the year 2018 at our next meeting so that they may be presented to the town prior to the new year so that it will be on record and the necessary meeting rooms reserved for our meetings.

The next meeting of the Memorial Day Committee will be on Thursday November 9, 2017.

Motion was made to adjourn at 7:35pm

Respectfully submitted,

John Stelma