

Veterans Affair Committee
REGULAR MEETING
April 15, 2024

PRESENT: W. Willinsky, T. Dickerson, J. Sterry, W. Petras, R. Cote, D. Rutter (A)

ABSENT: R. Spooner, C. Armstrong, R. Hunter (A) (A) = Alternate

OTHERS PRESENT: None

1. CHAIRMAN CALL MEETING TO ORDER

As we did not have a quorum, Chairman W. Willinsky called an informational meeting only at 6:42 PM at the American Legion Hall, located at 12 Freestone Avenue, Portland, Connecticut.

However, after the agenda was accepted as written, an additional member arrived giving us a quorum, so a Regular meeting was started at that point. (D. Rutter was in attendance, but has not been sworn in yet.)

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF OUR COUNTRY

3. ACCEPT AGENDA

Accepted as written.

(Standard meeting began)

4. ACCEPT MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made by W. Petras, seconded by T. Dickerson to accept the minutes of the March 18, 2023 meeting as written. **All were in favor. Motion passed.**

5. SECRETARY'S REPORT (T. Dickerson)

Nothing to pass.

W. Willinsky passed that D. Rutter's name was approved by the Board of Selectman. He just needs to nominating committee for the Republican Town Committee to fill the vacant VAC position. His name will be submitted to the Board of Selectman for consideration.

6. VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT (J. Sterry)

Nothing new. J. Sterry has one person who was asking for information on applying for VA medical benefits.

7. VETERANS BENEFITS & INFORMATION OFFICER'S REPORT (S. Petras)

S. Petras received some 2023 VA booklets titled "Federal Benefits for Veterans, Dependents, Survivors, and Caregivers".

8. COMMITTEE ADVISOR'S REPORT (To remain vacant unless needed in the future.)

9. OLD BUSINESS

W. Willinsky reminded everyone again to make sure they complete the annual ethics training and verification form.

10. NEW BUSINESS

W. Willinsky passed that he received 6 boxes of flags for the cemeteries. The flags have a little smaller stick, but they were a lot cheaper. We'll see how they hold up when they come out in November.

W. Willinsky passed that he retired flags at the Portland Recycling Center last week. They provided him with a new burn container.

W. Willinsky passed that the Town Clerk received a request from a veteran for their name to be placed on the Veterans' Monument. However, they did not have the necessary proof. W. Willinsky will contact the veteran to discuss what proof of residency would be acceptable.

11. GENERAL DISCUSSION / PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

12. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

A motion was made by T. Dickerson, seconded by S. Petras to adjourn the meeting. **All were in favor, motion passed.** Meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.

The next Regular meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2024 at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Timothy E. Dickerson

Recording Secretary