



Veterans Memorial Committee Meeting
Thursday, June 1, 2023 6:30 PM
District One Schoolhouse, 1862 VT Route 106, Perkinsville VT

MINUTES

Present: Alison Roth, Dylan Brown, Patience Bearse, Mark Richardson, John Arrison, deForest Bearse

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM. A big thank you to all of the members who helped make the Memorial Day Ceremony a success.

1. **Additions or Corrections to the Agenda** – There were no changes to the agenda.
2. **Approve minutes from previous meeting** – April 19, 2023

Motion: To approve the minutes of the April 19th meeting

Made by: Mr. Richardson **Second:** Ms. Roth

Vote: All in favor

3. New Business

a. Ideas for future activities

All agreed that while education is a large part of the VMC mission, inspiration should be an equally important component as well. Toward that end, the Committee members discussed ideas for getting the Committee and its mission out into the community more than just during the annual Memorial and Veterans Day ceremonies.

Ideas included:

- resurrecting the chicken barbeque – hold it on same day as the Historical Society's Fraternity in mid-August; needs access to a kitchen (Martin Hall) and a large enough barbeque pit (perhaps Mr. Brown can scout one out)
- participating in the upcoming Town Festival – to be held in early July at Hoisington Field; hosted by the Parks and Recreation Commission; Mr. Brown can get blow-up bounce house type items with sufficient advance notice; Mr. Richardson will contact Ray Stapleton for details.
- Hosting a walk on the Crown Point Road
- Hosting a "war-time dinner" using only foods available during war-time rationing
- Collaborating more with the school
- Host a cemetery walk or educational activity as part of Veterans Day program
- Purchase T-shirts with logo designed specifically for the VMC as a means of advertising the VMC's mission (Patience is working on the logo design)

- Purchase pop-up canopy with the VMC logo
- Create a brochure that speaks about the VMC and the Roll of Honor
- Create a graphic novel about the Crown Point Road and Rogers Rangers (as an example)
- Reach out to other veterans' organizations in neighboring towns
- Conducting fund-raisers to provide funds to other veterans organizations or programs

b. Veterans Day Program

Rep. Arrison had attended the Cavendish Memorial Day program and was impressed with the level of engagement of the school and the community. It inspired the Committee to perhaps revise our standard program format to permit greater engagement by all of the committee members and to include the school more. Everyone was asked to think of ideas to improve the quality/variety of the Veterans Day program. A priority will be honoring Royal Houghton, the last living WWII veteran in Weathersfield.

4. Old Business

a. Revisit budget

The Committee revisited the budget that was adopted at the April 2023 meeting to address the items below.

- 4.a.i. *Garden refresh* – Mr. Brown's family has offered to work on refreshing the Memorial Garden. The cost has not yet been determined, so we may have to revisit the budget once the cost is known. At present, the budget for the garden has been set at \$100.
- 4.a.ii. *Print & frame Roll of Honor for the Library* – It was agreed to print and frame a 16" x 20" image of the Roll of Honor to be hung in the library. It will be used to solicit veterans' names that should be included on the Roll. It was estimated to cost no more than \$50.

Motion: To authorize spending up to \$50 for the printing and framing of a 16" x 20" copy of the Roll of Honor to be hung at the library.

Made by: Ms. Roth **Second:** Mr. Brown

Vote: All in favor

- 4.a.iii. *Music for Memorial and Veterans Day ceremonies* – Music is a key component of the Memorial and Veterans Day programs, but live musicians are not always available. The Committee has successfully used recorded music through an iPhone or iPad, music that can be purchased easily from iTunes. It was agreed to create a library of music to be available for future programs and to reimburse Patience Barse for the purchase of the music.

Motion: To authorize spending up to \$20 for recorded music to be used at the annual Memorial and Veterans Day programs.

Made by: Ms. Roth **Second:** Mr. Richardson

Vote: All in favor

The revised budget will now be:

• Wreaths for Memorial Day and Veterans Day	\$300
• Refresh the memorial garden	\$100
• Electric bill to Perkinsville Church	\$200
• Roll of Honor Print & Frame	\$50
• <u>Music for annual programs</u>	<u>\$20</u>
Total	\$670

Motion: To accept the revised budget for 2023

Made by: Ms. Roth **Second:** Mr. Richardson

Vote: All in favor

5. **Other Business** – We have not yet heard from Mr. Gulnick about hanging retired panels at the 1879 school.

6. **Set date, time, location and agenda for next meeting** – the date of the next meeting will depend on whether we are participating in the Town Festival or not.

7. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting

Made by: Ms. Roth **Second:** Mr. Richardson

Vote: All in favor

The meeting adjourned at 7:19 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

deForest Bearse