

City of Hamilton HAMILTON VETERANSCOMMITTEE AGENDA

Meeting #:2023-06Date:September 26, 2023Time:4:00 p.m.Location:YouTube Channel Streaming for Virtual
MeetingsAll electronic meetings can be viewed at:
City's YouTube Channel:
https://www.youtube.com/user/InsideCityofHa
milton

Christopher Redford, Heritage Presentation Coordinator (905) 546-2424 ext. 4688

1. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES

- 1.1 Moment of Silence
- 1.2 Land Acknowledgement
- 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

(Added Items, if applicable, will be noted with *)

- 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING
- 5. COMMUNICATIONS
- 6. DELEGATION REQUESTS
- 7. CONSENT ITEMS
- 8. PUBLIC HEARINGS / DELEGATIONS
- 9. STAFF PRESENTATIONS

Pages

3

7

10. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 10.1 Dieppe Service Post-Event Wrap Up
- 10.2 Wreath Project 2023
- 10.3 Hamilton Remembrance Day Services
 - 10.3.a ASL Interpretation
- 10.4 Argyll Pavilion signage update
- 10.5 Cenotaph Centennial standup display

11. MOTIONS

- 11.1 Approval of 2024 Budget Submission
- 12. NOTICES OF MOTION
- 13. GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS
- 14. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL
- 15. ADJOURNMENT



June 27, 2023 4:00 p.m. WebEx – Virtual Platform

Present:	Chair: Michael Rehill Vice Chair: Ed Sculthorpe Members: Terry Ryan, Robert Fyfe, Steve Waldron, Rod Paddon, Don Jackson
Also Present:	Christopher Redford (Staff Liaison), Carolyn King (Hamilton Military Museum), Moira McGuigan (Hamilton Military Museum)

1. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES

(i) Moment of Silence

Committee members observed a moment of silence.

(ii) Land Acknowledgement

Michael Rehill read the Land Acknowledgement.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

(Sculthorpe/Fyfe)

That the agenda for the June 27, 2023 meeting of the Hamilton Veterans Committee be approved.

CARRIED

June 27, 2023

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 4)

(i) May 30, 2023 (Item 4.1)

(Fyfe/Ryan)

That the Minutes of the May 30, 2023 meeting of The Hamilton Veterans Committee be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 10)

(Ryan/Fyfe)

That the following items be received:

(i) Decoration Day Post-Event Wrap Up (10.1)

Decoration Day Event ran smoothly, all committee members provided positive feedback regarding the ceremony, the band, maintaining no vehicular access in the cemetery, and the cadet contributions. The chair extended his gratitude to the three cadet coordinators and the staff liaison on behalf of the committee and the community. In preparation for Decoration Day 2024, the committee recommends that the shuttle service begins at 8:30am, that they establish a firm forming up position, to increase time to decorate the graves, that cadet attendance is mandatory to this event, the creation of a map so that all cadets participating know their positioning, having a committee member on the shuttle bus to ensure that the route is correct.

(ii) Dieppe Memorial Service (10.2)

The Royal Hamilton Light Infantry Veterans Association organizes this ceremony with the support of the Hamilton Veterans Committee. This service takes place on August 19 every year, the committee is encouraged to attend. The Chair and the Staff Liaison will meet with members of the Association to discuss the service. The Chair will send out service details to all committee members in due course.

(iii) Wreath Project 2023 (10.3)

Staff Liaison has contacted the four elementary schools that are on the rotating list for 2023; Cathy Weaver, Adelaide Hoodless, Queen Victoria and Hess Street Schools. Follow up will be sent out in September when school resumes. This project will provide the students with complimentary

Hamilton Veteran's Committee Minutes 23-005

June 27, 2023 educational programs at the Hamilton Military Museum and complimentary transportation. Staff Liaison will coordinate with the Curator of Indigenous Culture & Heritage regarding the participation of indigenous schools in the wreath project and for advice regarding the land acknowledgement and indigenous participation in the Remembrance Day ceremony for 2023.

CARRIED

5. GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS (Item 13)

(i) Passing of Padre Bruce Lacillade (Item 13.1)

Staff Liaison reports the passing of Padre Lacillade, who was the County (Ontario) Chaplain and Commander, American Legion Post 18 (Hamilton/Burlington). Padre William Thomas will take over the duties at the 2023 Hamilton & Scourge Memorial Service on August 8. All committee members are invited and welcome to attend.

(Sculthorpe/Fyfe)

That the information respecting the Passing of Padre Bruce Lacillade, be received.

CARRIED

6. ADJOURNMENT (Item 15)

(Sculthorpe/Fyfe)

That, there being no further business, the meeting be adjourned at 4:21 p.m. **CARRIED**

Respectfully,

Michael Rehill, Chair

Hamilton Veterans Committee

Page 6 of 23

GORE PARK CENOTAPH CENTENNIAL 1923 - 2023

'The Gore' has been the core of civic life since 1815 when the land was set aside as a public commons by Nathaniel Hughson and James Durand. It was always to be a park for citizens. Things military and veterans-related gravitated there for that reason.

Prior to the cenotaph's construction, the park was used for large celebrations, and as the location for installations highlighting the ambitions of Hamilton. It hosted the first public fountain to show off the city's waterworks, as well as the first gas lighting. Early electrification was highlighted by a lighted tower in the park, near where the cenotaph now stands.

The park was used during WWI for what were then (probably still are) the largest gatherings of citizens in Hamilton's history. Gore was situated at a convenient distance up James St from the city's armory, and so was convenient for military parades during the war, and for commemorative/memorial ones after it.

Two thousand Hamiltonians died in WWI, out of a total population of only 100,800 in 1914. It is hard today to grasp the weight of the collective grief felt in its aftermath. If you did not have someone in your own family who died, your street did, and your neighbourhood had many. Those permanently scarred, both physically and psychologically were to be seen everywhere. In the aftermath, the Canadian Club of Hamilton wanted to replace their flagpole in the park with a significant, lasting memorial to the dead. They created a scroll of the names of the dead and placed it in a capsule inside the cenotaph.

Parades from the armory continued afterwards, as did public gatherings and celebrations. On VE Day 1945 marking the defeat of fascism in Europe, Hamilton's citizens instinctively congregated at Gore Park, and occupied the area in a show of thankful relief and remembrance. Today, the Garrison Parade set annually on the Sunday nearest November 11th moves south along James St to arrive for a service at the cenotaph, before returning again.

In 2014, the cenotaph was restored, the stones repointed and shifted slightly. At the same time the enclaves of that section of Gore Park, called `Veterans Place',

were designed and produced in consultation with the Hamilton Veterans Committee, existing military units, and other stakeholders. It formally opened to the public on the 70th anniversary of VE Day. The scroll in the capsule, long since forgotten, was found, identified, and put back inside the cenotaph.

The consultation undertaken in the design of Veterans Place produced a consensus that the area's enclaves should complement the cenotaph, but should also result in a space where people could meet, sit, and share a lunch on a nice day, while the visible reminder of sacrifice was in front of them. The centrality of the park and the daily reminder was thought to be of primary importance. At that time, the Hamilton Veterans Committee began to shift focus towards engaging youth in its programming.





























