



Hamilton

MINUTES

Hamilton Veterans Committee

Tuesday, August 9, 2011

10:00 a.m.

City Hall – Room 193

Present: Chair: John Clarke
Vice-Chair: Harry McEwen
Members: David Steckham, Gerry Rattray, Bob Fyfe, Bill Eisan,
Art Tompkins

**Absent with
Regrets:** Councillors Merulla and Morelli (City Business)

Also Present: Fern Viola, Veterans Affairs Canada Liaison
Anna Bradford, Director of Culture, Community Services
Rebecca Oliphant, Technical Staff Liaison, Minute Taker, Culture
Division
Marie MacEachern, Event Coordinator, Culture Division

CHAIR'S REMARKS – Remembrance of Fallen Comrades

1. CHANGES TO AGENDA

That **Item 4.6 East End Decoration Day** and **Item 4.9 Bands for Veterans Commemorative Events** be moved to the beginning of the Agenda to accommodate staff schedules.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None declared.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – 12 July 2011

(Rattray/Fyfe)

The July 12, 2011 minutes of the Hamilton Veterans Committee be approved.

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- 4.1 Role & Function of Hamilton Veterans Committee**
Sep 13 meeting - Carrie Brooks-Joiner, Senior Project Manager-Cultural Initiatives will attend the September 13 meeting to present her findings on the role of municipal Veterans Committees.
- 4.2 World War I Artillery pieces – Veterans Affairs Canada Cenotaph/Monument Restoration Program application**
Update: Gerry Rattray
Fern provided contact information to Gerry
Anna – working with conservator and has secured funding for restoration and funding for an appropriate cover, going forward with the restoration of the pieces, have submitted paperwork to secure approval to use Gil Bibby for restoration.
HVC needs to investigate where they should be displayed, currently do not have a place indoors, review options at next meeting, only location Gerry is aware of at this time is Dieppe Memorial outdoors
Suggested that the HVC investigate local businesses to sponsor the on-going maintenance of the pieces and / or information plaques.
The artillery pieces are City assets and as such are on a maintenance rotation, currently have a budget for that upkeep.
Gerry will move forward with the funding application.
- 4.3 Veterans Way of Remembrance**
Update: Traffic Engineering report will go to September 19 Public Works Committee meeting at 9:30 a.m. in Council Chamber
Staff to investigate if there will be different sizes of signs.
- 4.4 Possible use of former Parks Canada Discovery Centre as a Military Museum**
No update.
- 4.5 Queen’s Jubilee Medal**
Update – to date no information has been received directly to the HVC/Culture Division or through the City Clerk’s Department
- 4.6 East End Decoration Day – August 28, 2011**
Update: Marie
Review of program - add Doug Tulloch (Branch 58) as Piper
Print 100 programs
2 low-level buses are confirmed, 3 motorcycle officers will accompany buses to the Cemetery and for the parade back to Branch 58
will have bench, tent, Jack Russo will be doing sound, George Arnone band – cheque has been processed
Poster – it is not eye-catching, fear it will not be read, Marie to add colour and print on 11 x 17 paper, Bill will pick up for distribution
Wreaths – Bill – one for East End Decoration Day, one for HV committee and one for host club, MP, MPPs, Mayor and other politicians do not lay a wreath at this ceremony

Bill felt parade should not happen after the service because of the construction on Barton St. Gerry / John reported cones, cleanup has begun

4.7 Medal of Bravery – Leading Seaman Jaret McQueen from Hamilton

Update: Mayor's office asked for a draft letter.
David will draft letter with staff assistance

4.8 Annual Presentation to Emergency & Community Services Committee – 21 Sep 2011 – 1:30 p.m.

Draft presentation included for review
The presentation was approved as presented.

4.9 Bands for Veterans commemorative events

Update: Marie MacEachern

Will create a contract, will start with Dundas Concert Band, DCB rep has told her that if she can book them for a year in advance they will guarantee 30 to 40 members at each event

Dates for 2012

Sunday, June 10 Decoration Day

Sunday, August 26 East End Decoration Day

Sunday, November 11 Remembrance Day (one parade)

Sunday, August 5 Hamilton & Scourge Remembrance Service (Marie to confirm with Mike McAllister)

Remaining dates in 2011 Friday, November 11 and Sunday, November 13

Does the committee want to designate a Reverend – East End uses host club, in the past was to be switched through Army, Navy, Air, Bruce Lacalade is confirmed for 2011 Remembrance Day

Marie to invite reverends to participate in Hamilton Veterans Committee events.

Letter to Silver Cross Mothers for Remembrance Day, also ask about special needs.

4.10 Freedom of the City

Update: enclosure

Concern of the HVC - Individuals of the A&S from Afghanistan were presented by the Mayor, will anything be done for other returning military personnel, during this most recent ceremony, Mayor said this type of recognition would be expanded to other campaigns, also the Mayor mentioned a pin at June Decoration day.

Anna – this particular ceremony was organized by the Canadian International Tattoo, the Tattoo is not a City run event, they can decide how they would like to run their events.

If other military personnel want to be recognized they would need to approach the City for assistance, this committee can make a recommendation that something should be done, there is currently no policy that we are aware of for recognizing returning military personnel.

Staff suggest a recommendation report from the Hamilton Veterans Committee to the Emergency & Community Services Committee, recommendation should be reviewed by Councillors on committee before submission.

5. STANDING ITEMS

5.1 Smith's Knoll - Stoney Creek re-interment

Update – Anna no update at this time

5.2 Upcoming Events

Aug 19 – Dieppe Memorial Event – 11:00 a.m.

Clean-up has been arranged, police officer has been arranged

If anyone wishes to lay a wreath they will need to contact Jim Forsyth.

Aug 28 – Branch 58 host East End Decoration Day, service in East Lawn Cemetery

Nov 10 - Canadian Club Remembrance Day Luncheon at Waterfront Banquet Centre

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Order Parking Passes

Staff to order passes for David & Gerry

6.2 Invitations – knowledge of Veterans' events, most are not advertised other than at Clubs and Organizations, many who would like to attend but do not know about the events.

Perhaps sponsorship for paid advertising, approach local Veterans minded businesses to post flyers in windows, Branch 163 inside track to media, is there a ListServ for Veterans organizations?

For dates known at least one year in advance may be able to have them in Tourism Hamilton's 'Experience Hamilton' publication.

Be prepared that not everyone is supportive of these initiatives as is the Hamilton Veterans Committee.

6.3 2013 Smiths Knoll Remembrance Ceremony,

1st Sunday in June – Her Majesty's Army and Navy are scheduled to be host club.

Staff to investigate if there are special plans for this significant anniversary by Battlefield House Museum or the 1812 Secretariat and report back to committee.

6.4 RHLI 150th

Staff to investigate if the City has been contacted.

Bob to speak to Jim Forsyth at Dieppe if possible.

6.5 Remembrance Day

HVC, staff will need to contact the regiment for a bugler.

John is requesting assistance, David prepared to assist, apprentice for a time, Gerry is available to discuss coordination before he leaves.
George Roach willing to recite Flanders.

6.6 Branch 58 Legion – April 13-15, 2012

Expecting large numbers, hoping for leniency on parking.

Need Councillors to move forward.

Bill to provide more information for staff to share with Councillors.

6.7 United Council of Veterans Annual banquet

Bob to provide date.

Mayor – Guest Speaker, tickets will go on sale at various clubs beginning in September, \$15,

6.8 Protocols

Discussion - very Christian ceremonies, are the protocols so stringent that we do not recognize our changing military, is the ceremony open to being more inclusive, should we be looking at the different reserve units to make the ceremonies more inclusive, could we invite religious representatives from other represented groups?

Anna – issue has been raised over the last few years, HVC needs to be looking at this in the very near future, research how Ottawa runs their ceremonies, Royal Canadian Legion to date has not been challenged, at conventions the ceremonies are all Christian based.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Next Meeting: 13 September 2011
10:00 a.m. to Noon
City Hall – Room 193

Guest: Carrie Brooks-Joiner, Senior Project Manager-Cultural Initiatives

Significant Veterans Anniversaries (Please provide any additions you may be aware of to this list.)

- 2011** - formal end of Canadian combat
- 2012** - RHLI, Dieppe (August 19, 2012), Queen's 60th Jubilee
- 2013** - 200th Anniversary of the Battle of Stoney Creek,
- 2014** - 100th Anniversary of the beginning of WWI
- 70th of D Day
- 2015** -

Should be looking at dates, investigating, asking if HVC can be of assistance