



Hamilton

MINUTES

Hamilton Veterans Committee

Tuesday, May 8, 2012

10:00 a.m.

City Hall – Room 192

Present: Chair: Harry McEwen
Members: David Steckham, Gerry Rattray, Art Tompkins, Bob Fyfe, Bill Eisan, Councillor Morelli, Councillor Merulla

**Absent with
Regrets:** John Clarke

Also Present: Fern Viola, Department of Veterans Affairs Liaison
Rebecca Oliphant, Technical Staff Liaison, Minute Taker, Tourism & Culture Division
Marie MacEachern, Event Coordinator, Tourism & Culture Division

CHAIR'S REMARKS –

1. **CHANGES TO AGENDA**
Item 6.1 **Decoration Day – June 10, 2012** to 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**
(Rattray/Fyfe)
 - 3.1 Hamilton Veterans Committee Meeting Minutes, dated 10 April 2012.
CARRIED
4. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**
 - 4.1 **Role & Function of Hamilton Veterans Committee**
Councillor Morelli stated the need to bring HVC up to date and the parking issue is one aspect of that. Morelli reminded the committee their ultimate

role is to advise Council and make recommendations, then it is up to Council whether they accept or reject recommendations.

4.2 World War I Artillery pieces – discussion on location of restored pieces

Update: Gerry – Dieppe Memorial Committee would like to see the artillery pieces installed on the roadside. Committee should also note that any kind of dedication service should not be planned for August 19.

Staff reminded the committee that the Conservator will provide a maintenance report and that Parks still needs to be consulted as to location.

4.3 Freedom of the City

Geordie Elms, Special Assistant to the Mayor, Military Heritage and Protocol has been invited to the June 12 Hamilton Veterans Committee meeting to speak to this item.

Bob reported the 31 Signals Regiment Freedom of the City event on April 21 went over very well.

4.4 Calendar of Veteran's Events (Invitations/Advertising of Veterans Events)

Update: Need to strike a Calendar Sub-committee as directed at November 8, 2011 meeting of the Hamilton Veterans Committee.

Dave requested an update from the Royal Canadian Legion re: use of poppy. He has not received a response.

No more information has been provided to update calendar.

4.5 Veterans Parking in Hamilton

Update: Marty Hazell, Senior Director, Municipal By-law Enforcement to be invited to a future meeting to provide background on Parking report that went to Council several years ago. HVC can decide if they wish to develop a business case after Marty Hazell attends.

Dave clarified that he misunderstood the criteria for applying for free parking, only criteria – that a Veteran be over 60 and member of Canadian Armed Forces.

4.6 2013 Smiths Knoll Remembrance Ceremony

Art asked that staff be reminded the American Legion wants to be involved.

4.7 Cancellation of Remembrance Day Service in Federal Building Lobby

Update: The report requesting approval to send the letter to the Federal government goes to Emergency & Community Services on May 14. Councillors will usher it through. Councillors suggested HVC consider sending the letter to more audiences (other veterans organizations, municipalities wherever there is a DVA office). It will be stronger to make changes. Councillor Merulla stated Council can bring a resolution forward as well.

4.8 Queen's Jubilee Medal Nomination – Bill McCulloch

Dave has sent an email to Lieutenant Governor re: nomination of Bill. The nomination form is on the website. Staff recommends that Dave work directly with Councillor Morelli's office to complete nomination.

4.9 Media Releases for Veterans Events

Update:

5. STANDING ITEMS

5.1 Smith's Knoll - Stoney Creek re-interment

No update

5.2 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration

No update

5.3 Upcoming Events

June 6 - Gala D-Day dinner — Waterfront Banquet Centre - \$75

June 28 – Canadian Club annual bbq – Geordie Elms will be speaking

September 15, 2012 - Hamilton and Scourge Memorial –

The service will be held in the City of Hamilton at Pier 9 on Saturday September 15th at 11:00am, in sight of the two modern warships and HMCS Haida National Historic Site of Canada.

Mike McAllister will provide details as they become available. If there is the opportunity to be on the boat, the HVC would like to be represented. Councillor Morelli suggested the Niagara Police Service could be approached to provide viewing from the water.

Sunday, August 26 - East End Decoration Day

Initial planning meeting will be Saturday, May 12.

Marie prepared letters last year. She needs to understand her expanded role with more detail as to what she should be doing. Marie to attend June 12 meeting.

Sunday, August 19 – Dieppe Memorial

RHLI is hosting the remembrance event this year.

Rev. Francis Chisholm is going to Dieppe this year so will not be able to attend August 19 event and will probably not be able to attend East Hamilton Decoration Day.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Decoration Day – June 10, 2012

Marie MacEachern, Event Coordinator

Francis Chisholm, Reverend

Wreath Laying – 3 only, Municipal, Provincial, Federal

Fern – MC and leading hymns if his voice is OK

Bill to make contact with the Branch 58, RCL Pipes and Drums. As well, Marie will send letter to Jim Murray, Pipe Major.

Bill Eisan – Act of Remembrance

Marie has sent a letter to Cemetery staff requesting set-up.

Marie has sent letter to HSR for two low-level buses. Pick-up will be 10:15 a.m at City Hall.

6.2 Prayers to John and family

Staff were directed to send a plant to John and his wife.

6.3 Dieppe Memorial Service – August 19

The Dieppe Memorial Committee received a request from the City to provide insurance to use the park for the remembrance event.

Staff to provide Gerry with contact information for Bridget MacIntosh, Festival and Events Officer. She will explain the requirements of hosting an event of City property.

Staff requested the Dieppe Memorial Committee provide a list of their requirements for the remembrance event. This event is not hosted by the City of Hamilton so there is no approved budget for equipment needs.

The President of the RHLI explained to Bob that anyone can be invited to meeting July 19 re: program for August 19. Bob was asked to provide names of those who should be in attendance.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Next Meeting: 12 June 2012
Guest: Geordie Elms, Special Assistant to Mayor, Military Heritage and Protocol
10:00 a.m. to Noon
City Hall – Room 192

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

- 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