



Hamilton

MINUTES

Hamilton Veterans Committee

Tuesday, November 29, 2016

4:00 p.m.

Room 192, 1st floor City Hall

Present: Vice-Chair: David Steckham
Members: Keven Ellis, Dan Muir, Art Tompkins, Rod Paddon,
Marko Babic, Ed Sculthorpe, Councillor B. Johnson,

**Absent with
Regrets:** Bob Fyfe, Councillor Pasuta

Also Present: Andrea McKinney, Director of Communications and
Intergovernmental Affairs, City Manager's Office
Bonnie Large, Lead Digital Communications Officer
Kerry Davren, Manager of Parking Operations & Initiatives
Fern Viola, Resource Member
Michael Leatham, Signals Association
Joey Coleman, The Public Record
Sarah Ehmke, Cultural Projects Specialist, Tourism and Culture
Anna Bradford, Director, Tourism and Culture Division
Rebecca Oliphant, Staff Liaison to HVC, Tourism and Culture
Division

CHAIR'S REMARKS: Remembrance of Fallen Comrades

1. CHANGES TO AGENDA

Item 4.4 Web Presence for HVC will be moved to the beginning of the Agenda to accommodate staff schedules

Item 4.1 Parking for Veterans in Hamilton will follow immediately after Item 4.4.

Remembrance Day and Decoration Day discussions will follow immediately after Item 4.1.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None declared.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING
(Tompkins/ Sculthorpe)**

3.1 Hamilton Veterans Committee Meeting Minutes, dated 25 October 2016.

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

4.1 Parking for Veterans in Hamilton

Guest: Kerry Davren, Manager of Parking Operations & Initiatives

Evaluation report to General Issues Committee has been postponed until Wednesday, February 1, 2017. Meeting begins at 9:30 a.m.

Update report on the one-year pilot project

Original program - over 60 years old, live in Hamilton and Veteran of World War II or Korea, 260 permits were issued

New program - 385 permits issued to date for any Veteran with Ontario plates except the RCMP, new permits live in Hamilton or within an hour of Hamilton

-Initial intent for the program was that there would be no additional staff time by having to issue permits, permits came into play because of restricting the RCMP

-Members questioned whether there has been any increase in tickets for Veterans plates because they didn't have the permit – no data as yet, Kerry can investigate

-did spot surveys to see how long people were using a parking spot, cost estimated at \$175,000 in lost parking revenues based on parking being used by every permit holder for 4 hours at a time,

-to date there have been no complaints from the BIAs, have not noticed any difference in their revenue,

-Members asked that the staff costs be calculated and included in the report

-have had complaints in the areas near the armouries,

-just like accessible parking permits, veterans permit holders still have to abide by the other rules such as 2 hr limits on parking, etc.

4.2 Veterans Place at Gore Park – Security

No update.

4.3 Invitation and Agenda for meeting with Minister of Veterans Affairs

Tabled until the New Year

4.4 Web presence for HVC

Guest: Andrea McKinney, Director of Communications and Intergovernmental Affairs, Bonnie Large, Lead Digital Communications Officer

What is possible on the City's website and any resources her Division can provide?

Members questioned whether it had to be a fixed informational page or could it be updated regularly?

-Current specific template consistent across all committees, can explore something more focused, more engagement than static info,

Staff would need to know what the committee wants to see on the page then could determine whether it is feasible or not.

- Would need to have a contact so information is current, up-to-date, who is responding to inquiries

- City doesn't encourage lots of separate pages as they might not be maintained or updated

Sub-committee struck to work directly with Andrea and Bonnie to answer such questions as, but not limited to –

- could there be a link to the Facebook page

- How quickly could updates happen?

- Can they have a Facebook page? Want to be able to reach out to younger, newer Veterans

Sub-committee: Marko Babic, Ed Sculthorpe, Joey Coleman

Web Presence sub-committee to work with Rebecca to determine a date to meet with Andrea and Bonnie.

4.5 Artillery Pieces

No update

4.6 Remembrance Day Art Crawl

Update: Ed Sculthorpe

Ed feels it was a success, had 173 pieces of student art from 6 different schools, each has been photographed and posted on the Art Crawl Remembers Facebook page, 45-50 people came out to specifically see the artwork at Collaboration Stations, would like to expand for next year
North Wall Riders would like to sponsor awards for the students.

Need to formalize and request these new projects be added to the HVC mandate so that resources (staff and budget) can be allocated, need to formalize the Art Crawl Remembers relationship with the City through this Committee.

Requires HVC report to Emergency & Community Services Committee, then to Council for approval to adopt new program

4.7 Annual Presentation – Monday, December 12 ~ 1:30 p.m.

2014 presentation has been updated using City template. Bob will present on December 12. Please plan on attending if your schedule permits.

4.8 Meeting schedule

With the discussions regarding changes to Decoration Day do you feel it is necessary to have a meeting or meetings in January, February or March?

Rebecca to investigate a date in February and / or March and inform committee.

5. STANDING ITEMS (includes all HVC hosted events)

5.1 Decoration Day–Woodland Cemetery–Sunday, June 11, 2017 (Tentative)

Guest: Sarah Ehmke, Cultural Projects Specialist
Continuation of discussion started at September meeting.
Insufficient time – will discuss at first meeting in 2017

5.2 Dieppe Memorial – Saturday, August 19, 2017

Tabled until late Spring 2017

5.3 Remembrance Day

Garrison Parade – Sunday, November 13, 2016

City Service – Friday, November 11, 2016

- HVC Events Procedure Manual

Guest: Sarah Ehmke, Cultural Projects Specialist

Feedback from 2016 event

Mayor's office was pleased to see changes, attended both, McMeekin attended Sunday and will read remarks from the mosque into the legislature record, deaf community sent a letter of thanks, positive articles in the Spectator after both services

Rev. Chisholm offended, genuinely upset by what was removed from the service, scripture lesson in particular.

Rev. Lacillade had reservations but was satisfied how things transpired.

Remembrance Day is a Canadian event not a Christian event,

In future give clear notes to speakers that the words should not be political in nature

Cameron Bhatti, representative from Hamilton Mountain Mosque at Garrison parade, works with a group of Muslim youth who he would like to explore them working with the HVC

Some confusion in the dismissal after the Garrison Parade, Speaker's notes ask commanders to dismiss their own troops

One service in 2017 – Saturday, November 11

5.5 BUDGET Review

- Event Expense Review –

5.6 WWI Anniversary Commemorations – 2014-2018

This will remain on the Agenda in anticipation of future anniversary commemorations in which the HVC may be asked to be involved.

100th anniversary of Vimy Ridge in April 2017,

Joey Coleman (guest) suggested the City had a unique opportunity to commemorate this important battle, would like to see the HVC host a 5:30 a.m. candlelight service, Sunday, April 9 at the Cenotaph similar to Great Britain's "remembering the Battle of the Somme" across Britain, unique opportunity to commemorate

Needs a good solid workplan, Rod volunteered to prepare proposal for Vimy Remembrance

Motion: That a Hamilton Veterans Committee report be prepared for Council asking that a Remembrance Event for Vimy Ridge be considered with facilitation by the Hamilton Veterans Committee.

Moved: Ed Sculthorpe / Seconded: Keven Ellis

CARRIED

Councillor Johnson offered to bring this item as a Notice of Motion to the General Issues Committee on December 7, 2016.

Anna to write for Dec 7

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Flags on Gore Park Cenotaph

Vandals have damaged the flag poles on the Cenotaph, Therese Charbonneau, Senior Conservator, has suggested various methods to repair / replace, it needs to be something that meets the same standard that is currently there but be more robust

Therese suggested the Navy, Army and Air Force flags be flown on poles in front of the Cenotaph, (the Canadian flag is high enough that it does not get vandalized), or all of the flags be raised higher on Cenotaph.

Committee agreed the 3 flag poles would be the best option. A grant application has been submitted to help pay for the upgrades. Suitable decoration will remain on the Cenotaph where the flag poles used to be anchored.

Work will be completed in the Spring.

6.2 Asset Assessment Project

Heritage Resource Management staff are working with Public Works to identify and assess all memorials/plaques on public land, to determine and identify who should be responsible for and maintain them.

7. ROUNDTABLE (Items that members feel may be of interest to the committee such as upcoming events, updates on Afghan memorial, etc.)

General meetings - Need to be more formal (without being stuffy), guests should be invited to join a discussion rather than jumping in, if guests have an issue they would like addressed they need to request permission through the Chair.

City hosted events – need to be here as part of committee, everyone wears lots of different hats, if you are the point person for other events we need to ensure it is not implied/perceived that the City is hosting/involved.

Hamilton Signals and vintage Signalling Team was recognized by Communications and Electronics Association nationally for outreach and education programs, commendation for promoting the rich history of signals

North Wall Riders - Christmas Eve Candlelight Vigil Upper Field, Woodland Cemetery 4:00 p.m./4:30 service, lit candle on every Veteran's headstone

Afghan Memorial - monument has been paid for in full, LaFarge Concrete donated concrete, also boulders required around the LAV, at the Canadian Warplane Remembrance Day Service Councillor B. Johnson dedicated her time to the project.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Next Meeting: **Tuesday, April 25, 2017**
4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Room 192, 1st floor, City Hall