



Hamilton

MINUTES

Hamilton Veterans Committee
Tuesday, March 7, 2017
4:00 p.m.
2nd Floor Boardroom, City Hall

Present: Chair: Bob Fyfe
Members: Dave Steckham, Keven Ellis, Geordie Elms,
Dan Muir, Ed Sculthorpe, Art Tompkins, Councillor B. Johnson

**Absent with
Regrets:** Councillor Pasuta, Rod Paddon, Marko Babic,

Also Present: Fern Viola, Resource
Kerry Davren, Manager of Parking Operations & Initiatives
Kerry Jarvie, Downtown BIA
Suzy Ozer, Downtown BIA
Michael Leatham, Signals Association
Anna Bradford, Director, Tourism and Culture Division
Christopher Redford, Staff Liaison to HVC, Tourism and Culture
Division

CHAIR'S REMARKS: Remembrance of Fallen Comrades

1. **CHANGES TO AGENDA**
No changes.
2. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**
None declared.
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

(David Steckham / Ed Sculthorpe)

- 3.1 Hamilton Veterans Committee Meeting Minutes, dated 29 November 2016.

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

4.1 Parking for Veterans in Hamilton

Guest: Kerry Davren, Manager of Parking Operations & Initiatives

- Kerry previously met with the HVC last Fall. The evaluation report on the pilot program has been postponed several times.

Kerry's research shows the majority of Hamilton Veterans obtain and use City issued Veteran parking permits. Veterans from outside the city do not therefore Kerry is recommending the elimination of the City issued Veteran parking permits, and allow free parking to all persons with Veterans plates, with the same 3-hour limit which is provided to other accommodated groups. This recommendation will be brought to the appropriate committee and then to Council for approval. Delegations of interested parties such as the HVC, BIA, etc would be appreciated when Council receives.

- General agreement heard from all present.
- Councillor Johnson wondered if the cost of producing and tracking the City issued Veteran parking permits might have offset much/most of the parking revenue expected. The Councillor thanked Kerry for listening to the committee.
- As there were guests in attendance from the Downtown BIA Dave suggested Downtown BIA might make a delegation to Council supporting the Parking Report.

4.2 Veterans Place at Gore Park – Security

Park looks good. No recent word of vandalism etc.

4.3 Invitation and Agenda for meeting with Minister of Veterans Affairs

- Do we want to go forward? The Veterans committee is the only one of its kind in Canada which suggests the Minister may be interested in learning more about it.
- Discussion regarding the opening for the Afghan Memorial (LAV) project at Canadian Warplane Heritage and should the Minister be invited?
- The invitation should come from the North Wall Riders as this is not a City event. The HVC would follow up with an additional invite from the Mayor to have the Minister meet the Veterans Committee at the same time.

4.4 Web presence for HVC

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

Action from Nov 29 meeting - Web Presence sub-committee to work with Rebecca to determine a date to meet with Andrea and Bonnie to present a business case for a Facebook page.

- Ed needs to have a meeting with Joey and Marko to develop the business case.

- Dave asked if the social media site could be informational rather than allowing external posts. Ed indicated this was possible (this type of preferred format should be outlined in the business case).

4.5 Artillery Pieces

- The HVC feels these pieces should be displayed as they were given to the City of Hamilton as war trophies. The City has spent considerable effort and budget on refurbishing them.
- Pieces need to live inside, or in a protective outdoor facility.
- Liability issues surround unrestricted outdoor access. Difficult to move.
- Geordie suggested asking if the Armoury might take them on long-term loan for indoor display.
- Ed suggested giving one of them back to the Black Watch (13th regiment).
- A day needs to be arranged for the Committee to see them.
- Anna took down names of those present who would like to see them.
(Note update since meeting: Geordie has contacted the Armoury. They are interested in displaying the artillery pieces properly indoors. Need formal confirmation of the offer. When received the proposal will be vetted by the Manager of Heritage Resource Management and the Senior Conservator of the City of Hamilton.)

4.6 Remembrance Day Art Crawl (please note this is not a Veterans Committee event and is outside of current mandate)

- The Remembrance Day Art Crawl was very successful last year with 173 pieces of art being displayed.
- Ed is seeking help with coordination and running the event. School boards and art galleries need to be contacted in advance this year. Space required is 4 feet by 4 feet.
- Dave suggests this be a yearly event. Feels the HVC should be involved in ideas/programming such as this (education especially for youth).
- The Chair would like Ed to update the HVC on his needs for this event.
- Anna indicated that for the committee to do events/programming such as this, they would have to go back to Council to have their mandate changed. If it is the desire of the HVC to add an additional duty to their mandate such as “education programming especially for youth” the committee would have to include any staffing, financial and legal requirements that will result in doing so. It is imperative that Council is aware how changes to mandates will affect operational work so Council can make an informed decision.
- Councillor Johnson suggested that Ed might pursue this as an external, public-run programme, unaffiliated with the HVC, with members being able to volunteer. Ed felt the school boards’ responses might diminish if the imprimatur of the City’s Veterans Committee was no longer on correspondence.
- Keven suggested North Wall Riders will help any way they can.

5. STANDING ITEMS (includes all HVC hosted events)

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

- Do we only have one event instead of two in the City on different days?
- Discussion followed at the suggestion of the Chair that the HVC host one event and alternate east and west.
- There is a small turnout at each event. If we drop to one, there may be a larger turnout. Also more effort can be put into making it a meaningful day to educate.

MOTION:

(Moved: Keven Ellis / Seconded: Geordie Elms)

That only one day Decoration Day be held this year, at Woodland Cemetery, Lower Section on Sunday, June 11th, 2017.

CARRIED

5.2 Dieppe Memorial – Saturday, August 19, 2017

- Will go ahead on this date, as always

5.3 Remembrance Day

Garrison Parade – Saturday, November 11, 2017

City Service – Saturday, November 11, 2017

- Discussion of previous events and the need to make sure those taking part are integrated into programme correctly on the day of the event.
- An individual had expressed some concern about 2016 format and desired to make a comment to HVC. They are welcome to do so but have not been in contact.
- HVC Events Procedure Manual
- Bob and Chris to review the manual and the service.

5.5 BUDGET Review

Event Expense Review – no expenses expended to date

5.6 WWI Anniversary Commemorations – 2014-2018

- Update: Anna Bradford - 100th Anniversary of Vimy.
- Discussions regarding a City Vimy event (beyond current mandate) There are other non-City operated Vimy events planned.
- The North Wall Riders are organizing a Vimy Ridge related event.
- Geordie - reported that a Cadet Tattoo event is planned.
- Michael - a cross-country radio and signalling event is scheduled highlighting and replicating WW II practice.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Gore Park Summer Promenade - June 16-17, 2017- 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Guests: Kerry Jarvie and Suzy Ozer, Downtown BIA

- *Gore Park Summer Promenade* event will be back this year, primarily located in the fountain section of Gore Park.
- The Downtown BIA has received provincial funding from 'Canada Coast to Coast' program.
- The June event is a bigger event than last year with a Lumber Jack show and other various street level programming. Free event to celebrate Canada 150.
- Requested permission to use the roadway adjacent to Veteran's Place - Approved
- Request other Veteran information or programming to share with the Community at this event, if applicable.

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

- Keven- Green Light Vet Event is coming up on its one-year anniversary. Place a green light in your window showing support for Veterans on Saturdays. Wear a red shirt on Fridays.

8. ADJOURNMENT (Councillor Johnson / Geordie Elms)

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

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

The Chair called the meeting to order and recognized that the Hamilton Veterans Committee is meeting on the traditional territories of the Mississauga and Haudenosaunee nations, and within the lands protected by the "Dish With One Spoon" wampum agreement.