



Hamilton

MINUTES

Hamilton Veterans Committee

Tuesday, April 25, 2017

4:00 p.m.

2nd Floor Boardroom, City Hall

Present:	Vice-Chair: Dave Steckham Members: Geordie Elms, Dan Muir, Ed Sculthorpe, Art Tompkins, Marko Babic
Absent with Regrets:	Keven Ellis, Rod Paddon, Councillors B. Johnson and Pasuta
Also Present:	Edward Penner, Hamilton Volunteer Cavalry Unit, asked to speak to Item 5.3 Paul Stevenson, asked to speak to Item 5.3 Fern Viola, Resource Member Michael Leatham, Signals Association Paula-Ann Simon, RCL Branch 163 Anna Bradford, Director, Tourism and Culture Division Brydie Huffman, Staff Liaison to HVC, Tourism and Culture Division Joe Felix, Heritage Presentation Coordinator Rebecca Oliphant, Admin Assistant, Tourism and Culture Division Julie Richards-Bramhill, Admin Secretary

Bob Fyfe resigned as Chair and member of the Hamilton Veterans Committee for personal reasons.

Dave Steckham, Vice-Chair, presided.

CHAIR'S REMARKS: Remembrance of Fallen Comrades.

Reminded members that there was another meeting at 6 p.m. so meeting needed to finish on time.

1. CHANGES TO AGENDA

Item 6.1 New staff introductions will move to the beginning of the Agenda.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None declared.

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

3.1 Hamilton Veterans Committee Meeting Minutes, dated 7 March 2017.

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

4.1 Parking for Veterans in Hamilton

Update: The final report with recommendations that Kerry Davren shared at the March 7 meeting will go to Planning Committee on Tuesday, May 2. The meeting is in Council Chambers beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Members are welcome to attend. If a member would like to speak to the report staff can assist them in completing a Request to speak to Committee.

Parking for HVC meetings:

Advisory Committees can now receive parking passes for the City Hall lot. The passes will be for the day of the meeting only. Staff will send them with the Information packages for each meeting. Parking passes for the Convention Centre are still available. These are good for any day so can be handed out for the entire year at one time. All passes are \$5.00 per pass debited to the Hamilton Veterans Committee budget.

Order City Hall pass for:

Geordie Elms

Dan Muir

Marko Babic

Ed Sculthorpe

Fern Viola

Dave Steckham will continue to use the Convention Centre lot.

4.2 Veterans Place at Gore Park – Security

No update

4.3 Invitation and Agenda for meeting with Minister of Veterans Affairs

Geordie spoke to MP Bob Bratina and the Honourable Kent Hehr, Minister of Veterans Affairs. The Minister is genuinely interested in coming to Hamilton and meeting with HVC while he is in town to dedicate Afghan Memorial (LAV at Canadian Warplane Museum).

Geordie will follow-up – MP Bratina will invite the Minister and then invite the HVC to meet with them on June 3rd, date of the Afghan Memorial dedication. Minister will meet with HVC, possibly lunch to learn the highlights of what this committee is, possibly visit Veterans Place at Gore Park. Note: Re-enactment of the Battle of Stoney Creek weekend. Minister may like to attend.

Ensure Bob Fyfe is invited to the meeting with the Minister.

4.4 Web presence for HVC

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

Update: Sub-committee has developed a criteria for the proposed social media presence of the HVC:

- ~ Strictly Hamilton Veterans/Remembrance content
- ~ Maximum of 4 admins and only committee members who are active and savvy on social media
- ~ Absolutely no political content
- ~ Will connect with other local veteran and military groups to cross-promote events
- ~ Public page open to anyone
- ~ No comments section
- ~ No overt engagement or solicitation to outside agencies
- ~ All information on the page (description, mandate, etc.) will mirror what is found on the city website for our group

Next steps – review with Andrea McKinney, Director of Communications and Intergovernmental Affairs and Bonnie Large, Senior Digital Officer

4.5 Artillery Pieces

Update: Geordie Elms

Honorary Colonels are enthusiastic, have an idea where they would display the pieces, need a point of contact for the City's Senior Conservator re: display, Ian Kerr-Wilson, Manager of Heritage Resource Management contact for donation, contact will be Peter Young for the Armoury, preference of both the City and the Armoury is a straight donation

5. STANDING ITEMS (includes all HVC hosted events)

5.1 Decoration Day–Woodland Cemetery–Sunday, June 11, 2017

Due to the Picnic on the Bridge event happening on the High Level Bridge Sunday, June 11 the HVC agreed to move the Decoration Day ceremony to Eastlawn Cemetery this year. Members should use their contacts now to get the word out of the change of location. Staff will ask our Communications team to ensure media releases go out with the change of location. Brydie will notify cemetery, HSR and other participants. The program will be reviewed at the May 23rd meeting.

Note: It was agreed by the committee that the Senior Veteran on the Hamilton Veterans Committee should always be offered the honour of of reciting the Act of Remembrance.

5.2 Dieppe Memorial – Saturday, August 19, 2017

Marko to be invited to go to the initial planning meeting with Dieppe committee and City staff. Through his contacts in the King's Own Cavalry Regiment a suggestion was made that the Calgary Unit be invited to participate in the Dieppe Memorial Ceremony. They would send troops at their expense.

May want to reach out to King's Own Cavalry before the initial planning meeting as that may be too late to make arrangements. Brydie to follow-up.

5.3 Remembrance Day

Garrison Parade – Saturday, November 11, 2017

City Service – Saturday, November 11, 2017

In depth planning for Remembrance Day will begin after Decoration Day in June. General notes – the ceremony and Garrison Parade will both take place on November 11 this year as it is a Saturday. The diversity and youth participation in the ceremony will continue moving forward.

Hamilton Volunteer Cavalry Unit – participation in Parade

Guest: Mr. Edward Penner

The Hamilton Volunteer Cavalry Unit has a membership of 3 riders, all are serving Military, Mr. Penner is a police officer in Hamilton, for 6 years is currently a mounted officer.

Offering to be a resource for Veterans Remembrance Events, endeavouring to bring the history of the Canadian Mounted Rifles to the forefront

Participated last year in the Parade, motto is Respect, Honour and Remember, members are in the Canadian Armed Forces, they are not re-enactors, intention is never to take away from the actual event, they are about education, do demonstration rides, they are a non-profit organization and fully insured with the City of Hamilton named as a protected party, they have a good partnership with Hamilton Military Museum and the Argylls

The HVC has no objection to their participation in the service in 2017.

Paul Stevenson – expressed his objection to the diversity of the 2016 Remembrance Day ceremony, felt that 2016 ceremony was very political, asked how someone is invited to be part of the ceremony as he would like an opportunity to share his Scottish heritage

Chair responded, HVC will discuss his concerns, intent was to become inclusive as HVC and City have been asked for many years to be more inclusive as the ceremony has been very Christian centric, committee will discuss offering guidelines to those that are asked to speak, it is not a religious ceremony with military aspects but rather a military ceremony with religious aspects, asked Mr. Stevenson to put in his request to speak through staff to be considered during planning.

Mr. Stevenson left the meeting.

Chair reminded the HVC that Remembrance Day is a ceremony to honour our Veterans.

Staff suggested the HVC needs to be prepared for more of the same as they continue to be diverse and inclusive.
Develop a script so HVC and staff are all saying the same thing.
Develop guidelines for speakers to ensure religion does not enter in to remarks made at any Veterans memorial ceremony
Need to stay the course, cannot control the crowd, those looking for divisiveness will find it, those looking for inclusivity will find it.

5.4 BUDGET Review

Event Expense Review – there have been no expenses to date except for administration – postage, parking, refreshments.

Staff will provide a draft budget for 2017 events at the May 23rd meeting.

5.5 WWI Anniversary Commemorations – 2014-2018

Hamilton Military Museum is hosting a World War 1 exhibit “OUR HAMILTON: Through Their Eyes”, opening May 6, exhibit will run for a year

6. NEW BUSINESS – HAMILTON VETERANS COMMITTEE

6.1 Introduction of Heritage Presentation Coordinators

Anna Bradford introduced

- Brydie Huffman, part-time Heritage Presentation Coordinator and new Staff Liaison and Event Coordinator for the Hamilton Veterans Committee. Brydie is a part-time Historical Interpreter at the Hamilton Military Museum for the past 8 years and was the Development Coordinator for the Juno Beach Centre in Normandy.
- Joe Felix, temporary Heritage Presentation Coordinator filling Christopher Redford's parental leave. He has been with the Hamilton Civic Museums for 10 years working at a number of the museums.

6.2 Request from Councillor Merulla – The Journey to Remembrance

Anna Bradford - Councillor Merulla asked that the Veterans Committee consider putting forward a recommendation that City Hall bring “The Journey to Remembrance” painting to Hamilton for display. Cost would be \$4,600 to display at City Hall for 6 months.

The HVC declined to go forward as it was not a Hamilton artist and they do not have funds in their budget to do so.

6.3 Elections for Chair

These are deferred to May meeting when all members may be present.

6.4 Honouring Bob Fyfe for his service

Staff to investigate naming Bob Honourary Chair and having a ceremony at Council much the same as was done for Bill McCulloch.

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

- **Remembrance Day Art Crawl** – Ed Sculthorpe
Every art piece from last year was photographed and is on the Art Crawl Remembers Facebook page.

(Sculthorpe/Muir)

Motion that the Hamilton Veterans Committee Terms of Reference Goals and Objectives be amended to include education programming especially for youth and to develop projects to engage youth in the act of remembrance.

CARRIED

- **LAV Afghan Memorial** – Geordie Elms
Tentative schedule for dedication June 3, 2017 attached.
It is recommended that guests arrive before 10 a.m. to ensure a parking spot.
- **Visit by Princess Margriet**
Princess Marguerite will be visiting Burlington and McMaster University in May, Burlington is twinned with Apeldoorn, Netherlands

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

(Elms/Sculthorpe)

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: **Tuesday, May 23, 2017**
4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Room 192, 1st floor, City Hall