



Hamilton

MINUTES Hamilton Veterans Committee

Meeting #22-002

March 29, 2022

4:00 p.m.

WebEx – Virtual Platform

Present: Chair: Michael Rehill
Vice Chair: Edward Sculthorpe
Members: Terry Ryan, Don Jackson, David Steckham, Steve Waldron, Rod Paddon

Absent with Regrets: Councillor Ferguson, Dave Baldry, Robert Fyfe

Also Present: Councillor Johnson, Christopher Redford (Staff Liaison), Carolyn King (Supervisor, Hamilton Military Museum)

1. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES

- 1.1 Moment of Silence
- 1.2 Land Acknowledgement

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The Chair advised that there were no changes to the agenda.

Moved: Ed Sculthorpe **Seconded:** Terry Ryan

That the agenda for the March 29, 2022 meeting of the Hamilton Veterans Committee be approved as presented.

CARRIED

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

(i) February 22, 2022 (Item 4.1)

Moved: Dave Steckham

Seconded: Dave Terry Ryan

That the Minutes of the February 22, 2022 meeting of The Hamilton Veterans Committee be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

5. COMMUNICATIONS (Item 5)

(i) Friends of St Giles re. St. Giles United Church property memorial (Item 5.1)

Regarding the plaque that was removed from the cairn by the new owners at the former St. Giles church. The committee discussed connecting with the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry (RHLI) Heritage Museum as a potentially suitable home for the plaque as it lists members of the 86th Machine Gun Battalion, perpetuated by the RHLI.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 100)

(i) Decoration Day 2022 (Item 10.1)

Terry Ryan shared that the usual padre is not available for Decoration Day, Terry and Mike will look into the availability of a previous padre. The committee agreed it would like an inspection of the cadets and this will be performed by the head of the Navy League. The event program and logistical requirements for the event will be discussed at the next meeting.

(a) Contact List Update (10.1(a))

The Staff Liaison Christopher Redford would like to compile a master list of all relevant parties for the event and keep it current throughout the year. Michael Rehill will forward a Resource Manual he helped create which contains contact information and also suggests that the Remembrance Day event files have useful contacts. Christopher would like the Committee to ensure the information is updated and this will be revisited at the next meeting.

(b) New Hamilton Veterans Committee email (Item 10.1(b))

The new email is active and will provide a centralized location for Committee business to take place and will enable the committee to easily send mass emails for events.

(ii) Research a Grave 2022 (Item 10.2)

Carolyn King shared a project outline with the Committee to involve cadets in the research of local veterans. A small project committee will be formed to make decisions on action items. This committee will consist of the Chair, Staff Liaison, Curatorial Assistant of the Military Museum and one other committee member (Terry Ryan). They will meet and report back to the Committee.

(iii) Wreath Project 2022 (Item 10.3)

Ed Sculthorpe presented a project outline whereby classes from four local schools from four wards will create wreaths to be laid at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Day. The schools will rotate each year so that each of the wards' 16 schools will have an opportunity to participate. Participating classes will be bussed to the yearly Remembrance Day service courtesy of the Committee and have a selected student join the representative for the federal, provincial, municipal and Veterans Committee in laying the wreaths during the service. The students may also be given an opportunity to participate in the Hamilton Military Museum's "We Remember" program. Christopher Redford suggests offering multiple programming options in these uncertain times: in person programming at the Museum, virtual programming, outreach or simply providing the class with wreath-making materials. Letters will be drafted and sent to the selected schools and a small committee will be formed consisting of the Chair, Staff Liaison, Curatorial Assistant of the Hamilton Military Museum and one other Committee member (Ed Sculthorpe). It will meet, piggybacking on the Find a Grave committee.

(iv) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders Memorial Pavilion (Item 10.4)

Signage was discussed in order to educate users to the pavilion's purpose as a memorial. Mike Rehill shared a letter from the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (ASH) Honorary Colonel supporting any measures to educate the public with signage. Christopher Redford shared images of potential interpretive panels. The City of Hamilton and the regiment will have to agree on the style of signage. The committee formally endorses this project.

Regarding rentals in Bayfront park – SEAT will amend their website site map so the pavilion is listed as a memorial and will advise those booking the park that the pavilion cannot be used as a performance stage. The committee would like to see it clearly identified as a war memorial.

(v) Dieppe Plaque Re-Installation (Item 10.5)

Christopher Redford shared the quote to place the plaque (which had been vandalized) on an angled boulder (for accessibility) as being \$3,150.00. He is waiting to hear back from the Risk Management Department for approval. Payment is discussed as being through either the City of Hamilton, the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry (RHLI), the Committee or a combination thereof.

7. ADJOURNMENT (Item 15)

Moved: Rod Paddon
Motion to Adjourn 4:47 pm.

Seconded: David Steckham

CARRIED