



Hamilton

**MINUTES**  
**Hamilton Veterans Committee**

Meeting 22-003

April 26, 2022

4:00 p.m.

WebEx – Virtual Platform

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**Present:** Chair: Michael Rehill  
Members: Robert Fyfe, Dave Baldry, Steve Waldron,  
Terry Ryan, Rod Paddon, Don Jackson

**Absent with Regrets:** Councillor Johnson, Councillor Ferguson,  
David Steckham, Ed Sculthorpe (Vice-Chair)

**Also Present:** Christopher Redford (Staff Liaison), Carolyn King  
(Supervisor, Hamilton Military Museum), Bill Cumming  
(Air Cadets), Robert DeWolfe (Navy Cadets)

**1. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES (Item 1)**

- (i) **Moment of Silence (Item 1.1)**
- (ii) **Land Acknowledgement (Item 1.2)**

**2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA (Item 2)**

**(Fyfe/Baldry)**

That the agenda for the April 26, 2022 meeting of the Hamilton Veterans Committee, be approved, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 3)**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 4)**

**(i) March 29, 2022 (Item 4.1)**

**(Ryan/Paddon)**

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

**CARRIED**

**5. COMMUNICATIONS (Item 5)**

**(Fyfe/Baldry)**

That the following communications, be received:

**(i) Flamborough Legion 551 – RED Friday – June 10, 2022 – 4pm to 8pm (Item 5.1)**

The Committee has been invited to staff a table/display at this event to promote the committee and its events. Michael Rehill and Rod Paddon are willing to attend and a discussion will take place outside of committee to firm up details.

**(ii) Friends of St. Giles – Re: Former St. Giles United Church Property (Item 5.2)**

A Citizens Committee Report would be required, seeking permission from Council to contact the current owner, to suggest a suitable home for the memorial plaque. The Committee will instead apprise the Ward 3 Councillor's office of the communication and offer advice if required.

**(iii) American Legion Post 18 Burlington – Decoration Day (Item 5.3)**

The American Legion is interested in researching and laying flags at the graves of American veterans buried in the Hamilton Cemetery for Decoration Day.

**CARRIED**

**6. DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 10)**

**(i) Decoration Day 2022 (Item 10.1)**

Terry Ryan reported that cadets are not currently permitted to participate in any public events. Their absence will greatly impact the number of participants at the service. The Committee agreed that the purpose of the event is to commemorate Decoration Day, so it shall carry on with

planning a live event. Robert Fyfe offered to contact naval groups and a padre for potential participation.

**(ii) Contact List (Item 10.2)**

The Staff Liaison Christopher Redford is updating a master list of all relevant parties for Committee events and requests that Committee members examine it to identify any defunct groups and ensure the list is kept current. It has already been used to send preliminary communication out regarding Decoration Day.

**(iv) Research a Grave 2022 (Item 10.3)**

A working group of Michael Rehill, Terry Ryan, Christopher Redford and Carolyn King met to organize this project. Christopher Redford has prepared a presentation and will meet with cadets virtually on May 4, 2022 to provide an overview of the project. Cadets will research a veteran from a provided list or choose a family member and will receive volunteer hours for their work. Their contributions will be sent to the Hamilton Military Museum and will form the basis of social media posts leading up to Decoration Day. The Museum will retain the research which will form a database of local veterans.

**(v) Wreath Project 2022 (Item 10.4)**

A working group of Michael Rehill, Ed Sculthorpe, Christopher Redford and Carolyn King met to organize this project. Six school classes will be bussed to the Hamilton Military Museum to participate in their Remembrance Day program. They will then be given materials to create wreaths for the Remembrance Day service at the cenotaph at Gore Park. The Committee will pay for bussing and the Museum will provide complimentary programs. Outreach programming is available on request if in-person fieldtrips are not possible. Staff Liaison presented a variable budget with three options outlined:

1. On Remembrance Day, the six schools watch wreaths placed at Gore Park cenotaph live on Cable14, \$2,028.00;
2. Taxi for two students and one teacher for each of the six schools to lay wreaths with VIPs at Gore Park cenotaph, \$2,688.00;
3. Six school classes bused to Gore Park cenotaph for Remembrance Day fieldtrips, \$3,506.00.

Members noted that field trips are difficult to organize and may take away from school assemblies. It may be prudent to limit the number of students in the current climate. If a teacher and two students participate on November 11, the rest of the school may be able to watch at their assembly. If the full bussing option is selected it could be scaled back in future.

Michael Rehill suggested deferring this discussion until the next meeting and making a decision at that time.

**(vi) Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Memorial Pavilion (Item 10.5)**

The Parks and Cemeteries Division has offered to create a simple Parks-style sign asking the public to respect the nature of the pavilion. The question is whether the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders wish to do this or to sponsor interpretive signage for the pavilion. Michael Rehill will contact the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders to discuss their preference.

**(vii) Dieppe Plaque Re-Installation (Item 10.6)**

A large, bronze plaque commemorating the Dieppe Raid, which was stolen from the Dieppe Memorial Park and later recovered by police, will be inlaid in a large boulder and reinstalled at the park. More secure installation will hopefully discourage future theft. Michael Rehill and the Honorary Colonel of the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry have selected a boulder and it will be installed in 3-6 weeks, pending approval to transport the weight on the waterfront path adjacent to the memorial.

**7. ADJOURNMENT (Item 15)**

**(Fyfe/Baldry)**

That there being no further business, the meeting be adjourned at 4:31 p.m..

**CARRIED**