



Veterans Affairs Commission Minutes

Regular Meeting

June 02, 2014

7:00 P.M.

Council Chambers

Roll Call: Vincent Parys, Bernie Corona, Timothy Siggia, Paul Barry, J. Roger Pelletier

Excused:

Absent: MaryAnn Roczynski, David Whalen, Kirk Allison, and Gregory Sims.

Call to Order: Chairman Bernie Corona called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Vincent Parys made a motion to accept the minutes Of May 05, 2014 as is, 2nd by Commissioner Timothy Siggia.

Motion: Approved.

Opportunity for Citizens to speak: None

Old Business: The topic of the town having a Veterans Contact person was discussed at length. Chairman Bernie Corona handed out a copy of the ordinance committee minutes pertaining to the

Public Act: 13-34 where the committee approved the following:

The Committee reviewed the May 7th draft of the East Hartford Veterans Affairs Commission ordinance. State law requires that each town designate a veterans service contact person-the goal of which is to make sure that there is at least one person that a veteran may contact in town who would provide direction as to where a veteran should go to resolve questions involving benefits, disability requirements, and other veteran-related issues. This person would not be a veteran service officer



who represents a veteran before Veterans Administration. Rather, the Veterans Service contact person would simply be someone that could direct the veteran to the appropriate body to assist them.

The State Department of Veterans Affairs has an annual education program that the designated person would attend to be certified as the contact person. It is not a very intense program, lasting less than a day. The Committee felt that it was appropriate for the Chair of the Veterans Affairs Commission or such other members of the Veterans Affairs Commission actually designates, serve as the contact person. The Committee felt that the Veterans Affairs Commission members themselves would best determine who could provide the service contemplated by state law and could in fact designate more than one person to serve as the Veteran Affairs contact person.

Motion made by Esther Clarke, 2nd by Bill Horan to send the May 7th draft of the East Hartford Veterans Affairs Commission Ordinance to the Town Council for the purposes of setting a public hearing date.


Motion carried 3/0

Commissioners suggestion of setting up an info booth at the River Fest was brought up and after a brief Discussion, it was decided that although it is a good idea, it has proven to be a waste of time.

Broadcasting information regarding the Veteran's Affairs Commission on Channel Five is in progress.

New Business: After some discussion about the proposed Veterans Contact Person it was decided that the person holding that position needs to know more than just pointing the veteran in the right direction. Commissioner Paul Barry made a motion to pay the clerk, motion 2nd by Commissioner Vincent Parys.

Commissioner Paul Barry also mentioned Sept. 12th. As the **Stand Down** date At Rocky Hill Hospital from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m



Motion: Passed

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Paul Barry, 2nd. By Commissioner Vincent Parys

Adjournment: The commission adjourned the meeting at 7:40 P.M.

NEXT MEETING: September 01, 2014 in conference room "B"

HAVE A NICE SUMMER

Respectfully Submitted

Clerk, Robin E Parys