

**Newtown Permanent Memorial Commission
Minutes**

October 17, 2013 @ 7:30 P.M.

**Newtown Municipal Center, Council Chambers
3 Primrose Street, Newtown CT 06470**

**In Attendance: Commissioners Bacon, Brunetti, Burns, Engel, Krauss
Kyprianou, Lyddy, Martin, Middleleer, Pinto and VanWaalwijk
Staff: Anne Alzapeidi and Lynn Kovack-Clerk**

Meeting began at 7:30 PM

Public Participation: No members of the public were present

Anne reviewed the Charge/Charter with the Commission. She stated that things can't be removed, but we can add things to it. We would need to go to the Board of Selectman to do so. She also discussed the process the Commission would be going through. Anne will help the Commission create a Workstream while leading the Commission through the process of getting started on the task at hand.

The meeting started with everyone telling a little something about themselves and why they wanted to be on the Commission. They are as follows:

Lynn Kovack(Clerk)- Lynn has lived in town for over 25 years with my family. She has worked in the Building Department in Town for the last 10 years.

Sarah Middleleer: Sarah has lived in town for about 13 years. She has worked on the Board of Pootatuck Water Commission for about 5 years. She wanted to be part of the Commission due to chaos of numerous proposals for a memorial.

Joanne Brunetti has lived in town for about 14 years with her family. She worked on the Vietnam Vets Memorial at Rogers Park in Danbury for about 2 years. She helped with the clerical work, etc. She also worked alongside a grant writer for about 3 years and found very interesting. She also served as the Secretary of the Board of C.A.R.D. Foundation for 2 years. The foundation ran a summer wilderness program for at-risk youth.

Tricia Pinto has lived in town for about 8 years with her family. She just felt "that it is important to be here". She is happy to be here and be part of the Commission in deciding on a Memorial for Town.

Brian Engel has lived in Town ever since Marrying his wife. He also just felt it "important to be here". He wasn't sure why but looks forward to helping along this journey.

Anne Alzapiedi has been here with us in Newtown for about 8 Months. She has helped with everything from donations, events, and the many other things Newtown has dealt with the last 10 months. She is a Human Resource leader at GE Capital and is on loan to the Town. She will be with us as long as we need her and she is here to help the Commission understand how it works and to help in any other way she can.

Joann Bacon has lived in Town for about 7 years. She stated she and her Husband had lived in many places since Marriage and this has been their longest stay here in Newtown. She wanted to be part of the Commission to "Have a voice for Charlotte". She talked about visiting the 9/11 memorial and realized some things that she definitely didn't like about it. She is looking forward to working with the other Commission members.

Dan Krauss has lived in Town for about 10 years. He also is not sure why he wanted to be part of the Commission but just knew he wanted to help. He graduated from the University of Delaware. He and his wife first looked internally he stated. He then stated that they then looked toward town and wanted to make a difference. Looks forward to working with everyone.

Kyle Lyddy has lived in town for 20 plus years and has lived in the same house the entire time. After graduating from UConn he got his first job at Newtown Youth Academy. He worked with After School programs. He works with "We are Newtown". They have started a Scholarship for students pursuing an education degree. He is interested in seeing what we have archived already and looks forward to working with everyone. He likes the idea of the Workstream.

Alan Martin has lived in town for 45 years. He has worked with Pat Llodra when she worked with the Board of Education. He has been a Counselor in Schools and enjoyed his job. He enjoyed listening the people and what they were dealing with and help them through it. He also looks forward to working with everyone.

Steffan Burns has lived in Town for many years with his family. He owns a Nationwide Landscape Business for the last 10 years. From a recent outing he was able to donate a \$50,000 check to the Town for the Families. He is honored to be here and help put something together.

Donna VanWaalwijk has live in Town for 27 years with her family. She has been Secretary for the Newtown Softball League and a clerk for Trinity Church for over 4 years. She now owns her own Health Insurance Business and loves it. She wanted to be a part of the Commission to give back and was just drawn to helping.

Agni Pavlidou Kyprianou has lived in Town for 13 years. She grew up in Cyprus and moved here when she was 17 to study Computer Science. She wants to be here to do something for the families. She can't believe the strength and love the town showed and the amazing support that came to us from around the world. Her gift is to help make it "feel right" for families and everyone affected to have a place to come and reflect. And to come away feeling better and that is her gift to us.

Anne went over the process and some rules. She stated a quorum is at least half the Commission plus one. You need that many people for any decisions to be made. Decisions need to be voted on. Anne explained they are a Government Commission, so she will try to get our Town Attorney to come in and go over some things with the Commission so they thoroughly understand their job. Meetings are open to the public and anyone can attend. If more than 7 members of the Commission meet at any given time it will be considered a meeting. They will need to post and take minutes. Anything you write can be open to the FOI act.

We will be working on creating the "Vision of the Group" at the next meeting. It will help us add to this list of our Workstream we are starting:

- Location
- Funding
- Design
- Archive and Data gathering
- Family and Public input
- Benchmarking
- Maintenance

This list is not in any particular order.

The Mission Statement will be worked on at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 P.M.