



TOWN OF NEWTOWN
PERMANENT MEMORIAL COMMISSION

Minutes

April 10, 2014 @ 7:30PM

Municipal Center-Council Chambers
3 Primrose Street Newtown

In Attendance: Commissioners Bacon, Brunetti, Burns, Engel, Krauss, Pavlidou Kyprianou,
Chairman Lyddy, Vice Chairman Martin, Middeleer, Pinto and VanWaalwijk
Staff: Anne Alzapeidi and Lynn Kovack

Meeting began at 7:32PM

Meet and Greet with Families (Introductions, Our Charge, Distribution of Questionnaire, Questions and Commission update)

Chairman Lyddy explained to family members present (Mr.Wheeler, Mr.Bacon, Mr.Pinto, Mrs.Kowalski, Mr.Mattioli and Lauren Rousseau's Father) what the Commission is and the reason we are here to do the Memorial. Mr.Lyddy went over the Charge/Mission and FOI information so everyone understands the protocol of information from meetings and the availability to the public. He also discussed the questionnaire sent to the families. He went over the 9/11 and Columbine Commissioners and how he learned how to approach each group of people for their input in the process as necessary. Mr. Mattioli asked about timelines as he felt things seem to be rushing along. Mr. Lyddy explained the Commission is only in the beginning stages but that we need some feedback to keep things moving along. He also stated the Commission wanted to reach out to some people prior to Summer. He also stated if we are not prepared to talk to groups prior to Summer then we would wait until the Fall Semester. The families are the most important element in this process. The families wants and wishes are very paramount to the decisions made. The questionnaire is certainly not the families only opportunity for input.

Public Participation: No members of the public were present

Approval of Minutes: March 13, 2014 Approved

Information Gathering/Outreach Timeline:

Anne Alzapeidi discussed and went over list of various groups to speak with and how to proceed with this very difficult process. It will be important to meet with each group once they are decided. Anne mentioned First Selectman Llodra would like to attend the next meeting for an update and to answer any questions the Commission may have. The groups will be broken down into Phases. Board of Selectman would like Chairman Lyddy to attend their next meeting for and update and how the Commission is proceeding along with things.

Potential Site Selections/Meeting with Rob Sibley & Pat Llodra:

Commissioners Martin, Pinto and VanWaalwijk met with Deputy Land Use Director Rob Sibley regarding how Land Use in the Town works. Open Space, Municipal property, Newtown Forest Assoc, Bethel Land Trust, Farm Land, Newtown Fish and Game, Fairfield Hills Authority, Faith based land, Board of Ed and Park and Recreation. He explained how each of the above worked within the town, Commissions, charters and Planning and Zoning. Open space and Potential properties discussed were as follows:

- SAC field which is 6.5 acres. He showed the layout of field and how close to SHS it is.
- There is a field on Dayton Street, behind Figs Restaurant
- Land off Pole Bridge Road, Laura Trail
- Land at ETH behind the bottom parking lot
- Land on top of Castle Hill Road owned by Joe Draper, big parcel of land
- Property off of Old Mill Road, State owned
- Shepards Hill Road off of Boggs Hill Road is fairly flat, 29 acres off of Sugar Hill Road
- Holcomb Hill
- Upper Meadow which is called “Tech Park”

Rob suggested that they speak with Bob Eckenrode from Newtown Forest Association, and he could give some ideas of land that could possibly work.

Website Discussion:

Chairman Lyddy and Commissioner Burns discussed several website names and Commissioners unanimously decided on SandyHookPermanentMemorial.com. It will be set up for basic information, fundraising and to be a platform for the Commission.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:35PM