



## TOWN OF NEWTOWN

**Permanent Memorial Commission  
Minutes  
May 8, 2014 @ 7:30PM  
Municipal Center- Council Chambers  
3 Primrose Street**

In Attendance: Commissioners Bacon, Brunetti, Burns, Engel, Krauss, Pavlidou Kyprianou,  
Chairman Lyddy,  
Vice Chairman Martin, Middleleer, Pinto and VanWaalwijk  
Special Guest: First Selectman Pat Llodra  
Staff: Lynn Kovack

**Meeting began at 7:35PM**

### **First Selectman Update/Q & A's**

Chairman Lyddy gave update to First Selectman Pat Llodra. He went over what progress the Commission has made over the last 8 months. He spoke of the 9/11 Commission and research Columbine gave us. Columbine supplied us with a 60 page thesis on how they proceeded with their Memorials. He told First Selectman Llodra that there is no timeline. We are just getting organized at this stage. The commission is getting questionnaires out to family members. The Commission will be reaching out to the many different groups in Phases. The Commission will be available for each family in the way they would or would not like to approach the Memorial discussions. He ended his update by letting First Selectman Llodra that our website is being built now and that a Facebook and Twitter account were also set up.

First Selectman Llodra spoke about efforts to answer questions should there be a Memorial. Commissioner Middleleer asked How do we address families who want nothing to do with the Memorial. She explained it is a most difficult question to answer and to do as much outreach as possible first before answering that question. Honor and validate each person's perspective. Engage and help families in a way to design something less hurtful for them. She stated the Commission needs to bring heart and head into the decisions made. She also stated most important thing is Commission has to be patient with the process. It will be a difficult journey. There will be many layers to get through and to be sensitive through it all. When you come with recommendations and have come to a conclusion to present to the Board of Selectman, they will go with your decision.

Commissioner Engel asked Selectman Llodra if she had heard ideas from the many people she speaks to throughout the community. She stated what she has heard is as follows:

Fairfield Hills, reflective, quiet, water feature, inspirational and speaks to you in a relaxing way. Honorable place of beauty. FFH makes a softer impact in a more neutral center so she thinks it's the right place for it. This is her consensus from talking to so many people. She ended with reminding the Commission that it will be a tough journey but you will get through it.

**Public Participation:** No members of the public were present

**Approval of Minutes:** April 10, 2014 Approved

**Sub-Committee Discussion/Phase 1-3 Outreach/Overlap  
(line items were discussed together)**

Chairman Lyddy discussed the questionnaires we have received to date. Kyle has contacted family members letting them know next steps. Some responses were: Too soon and don't want one. The next step for families should be in a comfortable situation and atmosphere to feel open to discuss family thoughts. Commissioner Pavlidou Kyprianou and Middeleer met with a family on a one on one and gathered information. They explained we are in the data collecting phase at this point. We will put their information/design with information we are gathering and will keep them updated with the progress.

Sub Committee will research how groups went about selecting final designs. What is going to happen in the future? What is data for? Is this a competition?

Ongoing plans: Continue with data gathering process. Will follow up with families. Need to open up lines of communications. Ask families if they want to meet as group, individual or not at all.

Commissioners Pavlidou Kyprianou and Middeleer will continue to work with families.

Commissioner Lyddy will reach out to some groups in Phase II (Police- Newtown & State, Fire, EMS) group contacts to see how their schedule is to meet. We will then set up dates. Commissioner Lyddy asked Commissioner Brunetti to prepare for next meeting: Options and List to go over and come up with understandings for scope of possibilities. The Commission will continue with updates for the families.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:30PM**