



TOWN OF NEWTOWN

Permanent Memorial Commission Minutes

June 12, 2014 @ 7:30 PM

Municipal Center- Council Chambers 3 Primrose Street

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

Called to Order at 7:38 PM

Approval of May 8, 2014 Minutes- Approved

Parks and Recreation Discussion Points

Chairman Lyddy discussed the 26 Bench project. He stated he was approached just after December 14th about the benches that were being donated to the town. Kyle will reach out to the family members to see if they want names/symbols, etc on the and if they want them placed together or randomly around town. Kyle will do this through his monthly outreach and include a deadline for families to get back to us. He also went over the Stuart Frankel Family Foundation. They would like to place a small plaque at Dickinson Park as they have donated money to the Community. It will read as follows:

“In Honor of the Educators and Children lost at Sandy Hook Elementary School”

12/14/12

The Stuart Frankel Family Foundation

Public Participation

Bob Mitchell (Chair of Public Buildings) came to introduce himself. He wanted to let us know he has taken on the task to make sure the school is built on time, within budget, etc. He stated there were approximately 1,000 bricks in storage for SHS but they will not be using them in the new School construction. The Commission may use them if they would like to. The Commission asked Bob if he can put together an inventory list of what they have in storage for SHS.

Reports

Kyle gave an update on surveys that have come in. He has received one more survey. 1 family is not interested at this time, 2 or 3 families say still too soon and 11 from families detailing what they want and what they don't want. We will wait for families to contact us at this point and we will follow up through outreach updates.

First Responders

Kyle has reached out to First responders and Steffan Burns & Dan Krauss have reached out to school staff members. We can set up group meetings, one on ones, etc. Lt. Vance said he will help us with the process. He said you can hold forums for the troopers to come in. Chief Kehoe would like a letter requesting input from his staff and he will leave it up to them. Maureen Will (Head of Dispatch) said best way to reach is through email due to the long shifts. Kyle will be attending the SHFD on June 17th for their monthly meeting. He just wants to introduce himself to Bill Halstead and his group to explain the Commission and our initiative for the Memorial.

Schools

Commissioners Burns and Krauss spoke to the SHS Principal in Mid May and he was receptive and looking for opportunity to speak to us. Electronic survey was discussed and concerns with losing kids moving onto Reed School. They met with the Superintendent and he is very open and acceptable to helping us. Commissioners Burns and Krauss will approach teachers and staff at the beginning of the new School year and will attend staff meeting in Mid September to introduce the Commission and tell of our Mission.

Communication plan update

Commissioner Burns has worked on the website for us and showed us a proposed format for home page. He will continue on getting it up and running. Kyle will continue tracking comments on facebook, twitter, etc. Q & A for Community: Kyle will prepare approximately 6 questions or so to get out and explain our charge, etc.

Permanent Memorial Nature/ Design Outreach possibilities

Commissioner Brunetti went over information she collected. She stated a lot of memorials (9/11, Columbine, VA Tech, etc) all did competitions on different levels. She gave information on the memorials and stated a lot of decisions will have to be made. She came up with ideas on how the design will be chosen. She will continue researching and keeping Commission updated and Commission will help with their input. Scarlett Lewis went over the many memorials she has seen in her recent travels and told of what they were made of and consisted of.

Miscellaneous

No new updates on a location for Memorial

Kyle went over confirmation of the Outreach Plan

Newtown Alumni: John Norwell and Kyle spoke about proposed ideas. John explained potential for late fall and wants to put together a proposal for Commission and he understands this is the avenue he has to go through. Kyle went over information that was sent to Lynn on a Sandy Hook Memorial Fountain. Lynn explained she would pass onto Kyle but that we are only in the gathering stages and Kyle told her the same. He told her we would contact her when we decide what we will be doing and explained we will not be accepting anything at this time.

Kyle will also work on a Protocol for meetings and we will discuss next meeting

Meeting adjourned at 9:40PM

