

# minutes

Seekonk Veterans' Memorial Park Committee			
10.5.2017		7:01 PM	Town Hall
Meeting called by	David Viera		
Type of meeting	Seekonk Veterans Memorial Park meeting, audio 05		
Chairman	David Viera		
Audio Notes	James LaFlame		
Transcriber	Carolyn Kach		
Attendees	Donald Kinniburgh, David Sullivan, James LaFlame and David Viera		
Open Meeting Violation filed by Lauren Walsh against the Veterans Memorial Park Committee			
Presenter	David Viera		
Discussion	Lauren Walsh filed an open meeting violation with the Attorney General's office against the Veterans Memorial Park Committee. Seekonk has fourteen days to answer the complaint. Shawn Cadime asked Town Counsel, KP Law, to compose a letter on behalf of the committee explaining the approximately five to six months of missing meeting minutes [from January through May 2016]. The committee stated that the missing minutes was due to either: 1) not having a quorum, or 2) that they did not have anything on the agenda so they did not meet. Also mentioned was the possible punishment that the Attorney General could levy if there was a violation of the open meeting law.		
Conclusions	The committee will wait to hear back from the Attorney General's Office regarding the open meeting violation.		
Action Items		Person Responsible	Deadline
Howitzer Opposition			
Presenter	David Viera		
Discussion	Is the location of the howitzer at the Seekonk Veterans Memorial Park appropriate?		
Conclusions	It was decided that it was best to first deal with the open meeting violation before deciding the fate of the howitzer location. A decision at the next selectman's meeting will be made regarding adding a non-binding referendum question on the ballot in April 2018 to let the town decide whether the howitzer should stay or be removed.		
Action Items		Person Responsible	Deadline
Veteran's Day & Memorial Day			
Presenters	David Viera and James LaFlame		
Discussion	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. James LaFlame is in the process of planning the town's Veteran's Day celebration. He is waiting to hear back from the drum and bugle corps from the army band. Other than that, he said that the planning of the celebration is coming along fine.</li> <li>2. It is David Viera's last year for coordinating the 2018 Memorial Day Parade. The committee needs to start planning for his replacement. Mr. Peter Benson has expressed an interest in taking on this responsibility.</li> <li>3. Honoring Mr. Robert Defontes as the 2018 Memorial Day Parade Marshal and presenting him with a certificate or a plaque. The committee agreed that because he has been an excellent advocate for veterans and veterans' issues, that he should be acknowledged. The recognition should come sooner, rather than later, because of Mr. Defontes failing health.</li> </ol>		
Conclusions	David Viera decided to keep the following scheduled meeting because there may be things to discuss, such as, a response from the Attorney General's office or the Seekonk Memorial Park pavers.		
Action Items		Person Responsible	Deadline
1. Finding a replacement for David Viera/Memorial Day Parade.		Committee	
2. Honoring Mr. Robert Defontes with a plaque or a certificate.		Committee	
3. The possibility of forming a Veterans' Council to assist with event planning.		Committee/ Shawn Cadime	

Approved: March 20, 2018