

Seekonk Veterans Committee Meeting
TuesOday, June 28, 2016
Town Hall Meeting Room, 7:00pm

D. Viera, Chairman
D. Sullivan, Member
R. DeFontes, Vice Chairman
D. Taylor, Friends of the Seekonk Veterans Memorial

Attendees:

D. Kinniburgh, T. Araujo, P. Morino, R. McLintock

7:00pm Called to order No votes taken/Committee Quorum Requirements Not Met

Mr. Viera informed all that Mr. Cadime was holding the money due to Structural Stone until all are satisfied with the outcome of the Memorial Project. He explained this is customary and that the money held is a bond to insure completion.

Discussion followed about the faded lettering on some of the stones. It is possible besides weathering the bleach used to clean the area may have contributed to the problem. A full committee will need to determine how this can be fixed. It was suggested to contact Tribute In Stone for engraving advice.

Mr. Viera mentioned the lack of quorum and reminded everyone about the need of full attendance and participation at all the Committee Meetings.

Mr. Viera explained the "accident" on Newman Avenue close to the Memorial Site. There was no damage to report.

J&L Landscaping will continue to assist with the maintenance and ground care.

Mr. Viera to speak with the Board of Selectmen about requesting additional handicap parking spots. It was determined that there should be 2 maybe 3 added.

Mr. Viera reported that Rockwell Amusements has agreed to another donation to the Friends of The Seekonk Veterans Memorial at the conclusion of the Carnival scheduled for the last week of July.

Meeting ended approximately 8:30pm. No votes taken.

Seekonk Veterans Committee Meeting
Wednesday, July 26, 2016
Town Hall, 7:00pm

D. Viera, Chairman
D. Sullivan, Member
R. DeFontes, Vice Chairman
D. Taylor, Friends of the Seekonk Veterans Memorial
M. Drapeau, Friends of the Seekonk Veterans Memorial/Project Designer

Attendees:

D. Kinniburgh, R. Horgan, Warren Monument Company

7:00pm Called to order No votes taken/Committee Quorum Requirements Not Met

Mr. Viera spoke about getting an update from the Board of Selectmen with regards to Structural Stone LLC. The Committee was under the impression that service would be continued by Structural Stone in a manner consistent with a minimum order submission and onsite work. Paperwork cannot be found.

Mr. Viera informed all that Rockwell Amusements has cancelled its Carnival Plans until April 2017 due to the construction on the Sam's Club Building. Rockwell has committed to a donation to Friends of the Seekonk Veterans Memorial Park Organization but it will have to wait until then. The duration of the Carnival is usually 2-3 weeks.

FRIENDS OF THE SEEKONK VETERANS MEMORIAL OPENED THEIR MEETING DISCUSSION – 7:15pm
Warren Monument Company, Ryan Horgan provided a proposal for continued work on the project stones. His proposal included new engravings, a minimum trip charge and cleaning/repair and maintenance. Additionally, time will be billed at \$60.00 per man hour. Costs will be absorbed by the Friends of the Seekonk Veterans Memorial Park Organization. Zero cost to the Town of Seekonk.

MOTION MADE TO ACCEPT by Dave Viera

MOTION SECONDED by Mark Drapeau

Vote taken: 5-0 in favor of Warren Monument (D. Viera, M. Drapeau, D. Taylor, R. DeFontes, D. Sullivan) Then adjourned.

Mr. Viera informed all that a surveillance camera could cost 5000-8000 dollars. The Town will accept responsibility to monitor through Chris Campbell, Director of Communications. All agreed to have Mr. Campbell come to a meeting. Mr. Viera to ask Mr. Cadime.

Mr. Viera to follow up with DPW about the sprinkler system location. Asked members to think about a Time Capsule on site and asked Mr. Drapeau about a temporary directory to locate stones.

Meeting ended approximately 8:30pm. No votes taken.

Seekonk Veterans Committee Meeting
Wednesday, August 30, 2016
Town Hall Meeting Room, 7:00pm

D. Viera, Chairman
D. Sullivan, Member
R. DeFontes, Vice Chairman
D. Taylor, Friends of the Seekonk Veterans Memorial
M. Drapeau, Friends of the Seekonk Veterans Memorial/Project Designer

Attendees:

D. Kinniburgh, C. Nielson, J. LaFlame

7:03pm Called to order No votes taken/Committee Quorum Requirements Not Met

Mr. Viera indicated he had a growing concern of absentees at these meetings hindering the ability to vote on issues. Thankfully, at this time, there weren't items to address. Discussion continued.

Mr. Drapeau and Ms. Taylor spoke about the second round of paver installations.

Mr. Viera stated that he asked Mr. Cadime to schedule Mr. Campbell, Director of Communications to speak about the security camera. Mr. Campbell was unable to attend and won't be available until mid to late September.

Mr. Viera stated that Home & Commercial were interested in donating the camera. We have to be certain it is compatible to our system. We will need direction from Mr. Campbell.

Mr. DeFontes informed membership present that the "Thank You" pictures could be costly.

Ms. Taylor indicated the cost for the presentation will be absorbed by the Friends of the Seekonk Veterans Memorial Park Organization and will not cost the Town at all.

Mr. Viera informed Mr. LaFlame that he wished to address the audience at the Veterans Ceremony.

Meeting ended approximately 7:50pm. No votes taken.

Seekonk Veterans Committee Meeting
Tuesday, September 27, 2016
Town Hall Meeting Room, 7:00pm

D. Viera, Chairman
D. Sullivan, Member
R. DeFontes, Vice Chairman
D. Taylor, Friends of the Seekonk Veterans Memorial
M. Drapeau, Friends of the Seekonk Veterans Memorial/Project Designer

Attendees:

S. Mallon, C. Campbell, Director of Communications, D. Kinniburgh

7:00pm Called to order No votes taken/Committee Quorum Requirements Not Met

Mr. Campbell informed everyone that Mr. Cadime and Chief Mace reviewed the site and have decided that there are (3) three possible placements for cameras. The first is across the street, however, it was determined the glare from the sun would be an interference. The second is from the Library parking lot and the third the corner of the driveway.

Mr. Campbell said past estimates plus tie in could reach \$10,000. Additionally, it would have to be coordinated with National Grid for a power source to freely connect to the town's fiber optics.

Mr. Viera had spoken with Home & Commercial but Mr. Campbell said they utilize the Milestone System it while a very good system it may not be compatible. Mr. Campbell suggested Axis Camera's because they are widely used, work well in low light, good for day and night surveillance. The capability is 24/7 coverage and it has a zoom in function as well. Annual licensing covered/maintenance by David Miller.

Mr. Viera spoke about additional handicap spots on site and said he would check with Dave Cabral, DPW.

Mr. DeFontes reported the pictures and the memorial wreath are done for Veterans Day.

Mr. LaFlame said he would look into the possibility of a POW/MIA Chair.

Mr. Kinniburgh objected to a presentation being done on Veterans Day. Veterans Day is a solemn occasion and celebratory. He specifically addressed his remarks to the Friends of the Seekonk Veterans Memorial Park.

Meeting ended approximately 8:30pm. No votes taken.

Seekonk Veterans Committee Meeting
Tuesday, October 18, 2016
Town Hall Meeting Room, 7:00pm

D. Viera, Chairman
D. Sullivan, Member
R. DeFontes, Vice Chairman
D. Taylor, Friends of the Seekonk Veterans Memorial
M. Drapeau, Friends of the Seekonk Veterans Memorial/Project Designer

Attendees:

C. Neilson, D. Kinniburgh, J. LaFlame, S. Mallon

7:00pm Called to order No votes taken/Committee Quorum Requirements Not Met

Mr. Drapeau provided an update on bricks.

Members discussed the possibility of additional handicap parking spaces. It is thought that maybe only (2) two were needed.

Mr. Viera suggested that Mr. Sidok of Home & Commercial might be interested in submitting an estimate for the security system previously talked about.

Mr. Viera informed members that the POW Chair will not be ready for Veterans Day. He spoke about maybe asking the American Legion for assistance.

Mr. Drapeau was going to find information about the history of the POW Chair and the proper placement on site.

Meeting ended approximately 8:30pm. No votes taken.

Seekonk Veterans Committee Meeting
Thursday, April 27, 2017
Town Hall, 7:00pm

D. Viera, Chairman
D. Sullivan, Member
R. DeFontes, Vice Chairman
V. DeMedeiros, Member
D. Taylor, Friends of the Seekonk Veterans Memorial

Attendees:

D. Kinniburgh, J. LaFlame, VSO

7:03pm Called to order

Memorial Day plans were discussed. Mr. LaFlame reviewed plans with the Committee. His plans this year. Not a Memorial Committee Project. Mr. LaFlame stated music will be provided by the High School Band. Mr. Ralph Travers, Parade Marshall, State Rep Steven Howitt, Guest Speaker, Dave Viera, Guest Speaker.

Mr. Viera let all aware that the security camera is now functioning and linked properly. A huge thank you is deserving of Chris Campbell, Director of Communications.

Mr. Viera indicated that the Town Administrator will be part of a newly formed Cable Show beginning May 11, 2017 for updates and details.

Mr. Viera informed all that the Howitzer is expected to be delivered on or about June 1, 2017. He reminded everyone that when discussions early on came to decorating the grounds, the Committee wanted to enhance the Memorial and that historical pieces would add a sense of completion. He asked assistance of Rep Steven Howitt who in turn provided a contact. Nothing was a guarantee but checking on what was available to us was the goal. The Board of Selectmen had already approved the move. Further discussion was about where to place it, how to anchor it down and whether restoration costs would be expensive.

Mr. Viera again spoke about the importance of attendance and a full committee. He is going to readdress this with the Town Administrator.

Mr. Viera spoke about the possibility of an outdoor POW/MIA Chair possibly made of marble. He said the estimated cost could reach \$3,000. He was going to inquire about fundraising with the American Legion in the hopes with their help cost could be reduced.

Meeting ended approximately 8:30pm. No votes taken.

Seekonk Veterans Committee Meeting
Thursday, July 20, 2017
Seekonk Town Hall, 7:00pm

D. Viera, Chairman
D. Kinniburgh, Member
D. Sullivan, Member
R. DeFontes, Vice Chairman
M. Drapeau, Friends of the Seekonk Veterans Memorial
D. Taylor, Friends of the Seekonk Veterans Memorial

7:00pm Called to order

Mr. Viera spoke about the donation of the Howitzer and said it is expected on or about 7/28/17. He indicated storage was possible at Station 1 if needed. He reminded the Committee this was discussed during the Memorial Dedication with him as the Rehoboth National Guard was interested in providing one to both Rehoboth's site as well as ours. Mr. Cadime was asked to choose which of the two available would come to Seekonk.

Discussion continued about placement and possibly building a concrete slab to keep the wheels from destruction. It was important to know where the underground sprinkler system is laid out to keep it a safe distance away. Discussion turned to asking DPW for assistance. It was determined that the plans for the sprinkler system was needed.

Mr. DeFontes spoke about the "touch up" needed on various stones and reported speaking with Country Signs for assistance. Mr. DeFontes experimented with a method to repaint the stones in question and it was determined while the method is a good one, he is unable to do it himself. He suggested making a list of the stones needing touch up and address it with Country Signs.

Mr. Viera asked about outstanding bills. Ms. Taylor indicated Friends of the Seekonk Veterans Memorial had one remaining bill from Warren Stone Company that was not paid as of this meeting date. With Group C now in production it was acceptable to wait until they were completed.

Mr. Viera asked that the next meeting be on the Memorial Site once the Howitzer was delivered. Discussion then would continue about placement and a dedication plan for the Rehoboth National Guard.

Mr. Viera further asked that the Committee consider the process of "Touch Up" for the stones in place, and any new stone orders received.

Meeting ended approximately 8:15pm. No votes taken.

Seekonk Veterans Committee Meeting
Thursday, August 10, 2017
Seekonk Veterans Memorial , 7:00pm

D. Viera, Chairman
D. Kinniburgh, Member
D. Sullivan, Member
R. DeFontes, Vice Chairman
D. Taylor, Friends of the Seekonk Veterans Memorial

Paul Miles Mathias, Attendee

7:00pm Called to order

Mr. Viera asked about the sprinkler system plans. Mr. DeFontes said that Mr. Drapeau had the originals but was on vacation at this time. Mr. Drapeau would be asked to bring them to the next meeting.

Mr. Viera addressed Mr. Mathias as an attendee of the meeting.

Discussion ensued about the acceptance of the Howitzer. Mr. Mathias said there was no formal vote taken for placement on this site. He said the Board of Selectmen never put this on their agenda for discussion and the public was never given an opportunity to vote on the acceptance. He went on to say that many feel the symbolism of the gun is not positive and it does not belong near the library. Further he said that the Committee didn't have the right to put what they wanted there to further somebody's agenda. He went on to allege that this action was a violation of the open meeting law.

Ms. Taylor explained that the Committee is appointed by the Board of Selectmen and that they work under the auspices of the Selectmen. The Board of Selectmen receive as part of their agenda a report from the Committee Liaison as needed. This donation did not "just appear" as he stated. Mr. Mathias was also reminded that there was no tax payer money expended for the acceptance therefore there was no vote to be taken.

Mr. Viera stated that it is basically on loan to the Town because when and if the Guard needed it they would take it back and acknowledged that communications could have been better, however, the Committee did nothing wrong. All Veterans Committee Meetings are posted according to MGL. They are all open to the public, yet no one attends. Discussions continue even though much of the project is complete.

Discussion turned to the restoration of the Howitzer. It was suggested that Warren Monument be asked for assistance as they continue to work with Friends of the Memorial in production and payment of the stones. Mr. DeFontes thought that Warren Monument suggested sand blasting to clean it up, prime it right away before repainting it.

Meeting ended approximately 8:30pm. No votes taken.