

York Maine Committee for Veterans Affairs
Meeting Minutes
6pm, February 22, 2022
York Public Library

MEMBERS PRESENT: Barry Waddell, Mike Dow, Jimmy Carabello, Bill Blaisdell, Mel Spelman

Absent: Roger Clemens, Lew DiTommaso, Wade Fox

1. Call Meeting to Order: Barry called the meeting to order at 6pm.
2. Barry asked for approval of the last meeting minutes. Jimmy made motion; Bill seconded. Approved 5-0.
3. Flag Retirement monument: Barry reported there is no update. Waiting for a dollar amount and final graphics on the Heritage Monument. When he receives such information, he will send a digital update and ask for approval/ disapproval.
4. Bill reviewed the updated budget. After items we have either received or have contractual agreements, we have \$4207.31 remaining in the 21/22 budget.
5. Barry reviewed the March 29 National Vietnam War Veterans Day celebration and will contact the DAR. As of today, there has been no contact with the group. ~~Mike reported there was a problem relative to the process in which students will be awarded for the essays that will be read.~~

Mike reported that he had been asked to be an award presenter and declined.

6. Barry began discussion regarding new members replacing those who have terms expiring July 1 and have decided not to continue. Barry and Bill are stepping down. This would leave openings for 2 new members and one alternate member. Wade would be given the first offer to become a member, and we all hope he does. Barry asked if anyone knew of someone who would like to serve as chairman. They should talk to Barry as soon as possible.
7. Since Barry is stepping down as Chairman a new one needs to be voted on. It would make sense to have someone in place as soon as possible as this would allow the person time to work with Barry.
8. There is no school update.
9. There is no update regarding WAA.
10. Mike reported all 18 individuals on the banners and two videos on the ~~monuments~~ **Wreaths Across America caravan** in town are on the town website. He also reported the Visitor center has expressed interest in hanging a banner depicting all 18 heroes on one banner to hang in their window. Mike is working to finalize the price of the banner.
11. Mike brought up York residents who fought and also those KIAs in the Revolutionary War, War of 1812 and Civil War.
12. Jimmy reviewed the great job the York High School hockey team did in honoring the 13 troops lost in the Afghanistan evacuation. It was suggested that the hockey team be invited to march in the Memorial Day parade.

13. There was no update regarding the American Legion.
14. ~~Lew~~ **Mike** is working on **all war monument pages** ~~the Vietnam page~~ of the Town of York's War monument web page.
15. Mel updated the progress on the brochure. He gave out a draft of the opening page and asked for input from all members. He will contact the company that the town uses to get a price and options regarding quality of paper etc.
16. Mike suggested we put three additional Purple Heart signs in the middle of town. Basically, encapsulating the banners. We presently have two additional signs and the town can make up another one. There is a question regarding the size of the signs. Mike to discuss further details at the next meeting.
17. The next meeting will be March 22.
18. The meeting was adjourned with a 5-0 vote.