

Minutes of Monuments and Ceremonies Commission Meeting, October 9, 2012

Meeting was called to order by Chairman, Phil Kraft with the following Commissioners present: Marion Castell, Roland Holub, John Geoghegan, Rebecca Siciliano, Sueann Schorr, David Polett, Karen Polett, Terry Gaffney, and Charles Scribner.

Minutes of the September 4, 2012 meeting were accepted as read with the correction of Veteran's Day to be celebrated on November 11, at 11:00 AM. Motion by John Geoghegan; second Terry Gaffney.

Commissioner's Term: Discussion followed about expiring terms for Commissioners. With the exception of two members, all Commissioners need to be reappointed or newly vetted/ appointed for the first time. Questions arose about whether Marian could serve as a volunteer since she is on another town commission and therefore ineligible to serve on our Monuments Commission. We all feel that her presence at our Commission meetings as the Darien Town Historian is vital. We all agreed that further investigation is required as to whether our 3 year terms can be staggered so that not all Commissioners need to be reappointed at one time as is now the case. In the past, our appointments varied in years. Terry volunteered to look into this. Karen will contact the RTC for applications and info for Republican members.

Veterans' Day: Phil has given the town clergy a packet of information about Veterans' Day past and present and it is our hope that they will use this to commemorate November 11, 2012 since no Town ceremony is planned for a Sunday.

Old White Bridge Monument: A modest ceremony is planned for 12:30 on Friday, November 2, at this Tokeneke Bridge location. The 100 year old plaque removed from the bridge when it was demolished is back in place on the grassy area near the bridge. Listed on the plaque are names of the Selectmen from both Darien and Norwalk in 1912. Marian volunteered to invite the Darien, Norwalk, and Rowayton Historical Societies. Commissioners felt it appropriate to also invite Darien Selectmen, especially Dave Campbell who was instrumental in saving and relocating this monument. Mayor Moccia or his representative should also be invited. Local newspapers should also be notified and included. Perhaps the newspapers could research the people named on the plaque.

Monuments Inventory: Sueann Schorr's daughter is doing this as a part of her Silver Award scouting project. More facts and pertinent information needs to be included, and condition of the monuments is not necessary to note. Karen volunteered to work with the girls and Sueann on this.

Veteran's Memorial Garden: An Eagle Scout, Michael Cassidy has built a Veterans' Memorial Garden at Ox Ridge School and it will be dedicated during a Veteran's Day ceremony at that school on November 9.

Darien Domestic Abuse Partnership: This group has asked to use the Town Hall display case for the month of October. Chick reported that an application will be filled out, and unanimous approval was given by the Commission.

Adjourned on a motion by John, second Chick. Next meeting date/time change to November 13, at 3:30 PM.

Submitted by,

Karen Kreitzberger Polett, Secretary