

Monuments and Ceremonies Commission

Meeting Minutes October 11, 2011

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Phil Kraft at 3:30 PM with the following Commissioners present: Ed Carabillo, John Geoghegan, Phil Kraft, Dave Polett, Karen Polett, Charles Scribner, Becky Siciliano and George Walsh. The meeting was taped for viewing on Channel 79.

Old Business: Phil has purchased 10 fan buntings to be used by our Commission with some to be donated to the Darien High School SOS group in honor of retired assistant principal Donna Russo. Over the past years, Ms. Russo was instrumental in organizing many veterans related programs held at Darien High School.

John Geoghegan will be honored on October 18, with the Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award. He has successfully served as a pilot for 50 years. All Commission members congratulated John for his many achievements.

Dave Polett offered to contact Bob Riith about getting a new reviewing platform built or purchased for next year's Memorial Day Parade. Discussion ensued and it was determined that a metal folding platform would be easier to store and would require less to maintain. Senior men's woodworking group was suggested, but some Commission members thought that a wood platform would be harder to properly store and maintain.

Phil will contact the man who placed the new trees at the 9/11 Memorial behind the Middlesex Middle School. One of the trees needs to be sprayed for insects or fertilized.

New Business: Veteran's Day will be celebrated at the Darien Town Hall Veteran's Circle 11:00 AM on November 11, 2011. Jeff Calcott, Junior Commander of the Darien VFW Post 6933 will be the Master of Ceremonies in the absence of Phil Kraft. The script and these proceedings will be broadcast to the Darien Schools and taped by Channel 79. Karen will obtain floral tributes for this ceremony. The Darien schools will have a flag raising ceremony at 8:00 AM on November 11, at the front of the High School. All are invited.

Wreaths Across America entourage will not be coming through Darien this year.

Chick ordered spears for the top of the CT flags, and asked if our Commission could provide a flag for the Senior Men when they march in the Memorial Day Parade. The Commission voted unanimously to provide this flag.

The flagpole above the monument in the Darien Veteran's Cemetery needs to be painted and the halyard replaced. Karen offered to look up and contact the company that did the renovations for the flagpole at the Old Town Hall. Karen and Dave will check on the Old Tokeneke Bridge marker. The marker was stored at Ring's End Lumber Company over the winter, and, as it will be 100 years old in 2012, a resting place needs to be found for this historically significant piece.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:25 PM on a motion by Carabillo, second Scribner. Due to Election Day, the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2011 in Room B-3, lower level. Note room change!

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Kreitzberger Polett ,Secretary