

Patriotic and Special Events Committee 2021, minutes for 2 Jun 2021. **Updates in RED**

Join Zoom Meeting at **(updated)**:

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Changes / updates in RED

Who : Members of the P&SEC, SVPP, Veterans and the general public

When: Wed 2 Jun, 2021, 12 Noon

Where: Zoom meeting address:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/98066585413?pwd=S1ppUmc0cDYvY25QbzBsZGVucHNadz09>

VucHNadz09Attendees: Mark McGrath - X , Xavier Shellman- X , Joe Colavito- X , Dave Kaplan- X

Guests:

Kiernan Edmondson, Chris Munger, Pat Parry, Colleen Harkey, Steve Fischer, Alan Gerard, Capt Tom Barcello

Agenda: ~~A Quorum was not met for the 3 Feb meeting, so a meeting was held Tuesday 9 Feb at 10 AM. The agenda and zoom address will be the same.~~

1)P&SEC events for 2021 - Discussion of several names for speakers for future events. – Several names mentioned by Pat Parry (Joey Jones, Jason Redman- Booked elsewhere, Gen. Don Bullduck, James Hatch) , Allan Gerard (Ct Adjutant General or Asst General(s) – Awaiting answer, Groton Admirals or Captains available), and Colleen Harkey (Electric Boat retired Navy Personnel). Colleen, Pat and Allen will convene among themselves to get a speaker and present options for the 7 April meeting. Pat Parry suggested: Tod Labreco, Ms Kiesser – Peterson. – TBD- **No Change**

2)Memorial Day Speaker, Patricia Parry has a suggestion. – **See #2**

Pat Buzzeo along with Dan Eddinger National Commander, Military Order of the Purple Heart, will address the City of Stamford effort to be a Purple Heart City. Probable Date of celebrating Stamford as a Purple Heart City – Saturday 7 Aug, 2021. Advertisement to solicit Purple Heart (PH) recipients or family members, may be done via the Stamford Advocate, the City website, Veterans Park Partnership (VPP) website, social media. M.McGrath needs to verify the NEW City website contains meeting agendas, minutes MMc needs to follow up with Taylor Gray regarding the City Purple Heart initiative. MMc needs to verify all Purple Heart Applications go to The Veteran Council Website. **MMcGrath to follow up. 5/17 & 5/25 Reached out to Taylor Gray, City website person.**
<https://form.jotform.com/210345980734154>

3) Forms needed for; Registering – Steve Fischer (SF received two or three applications) and Colleen Harkey (CH received one to two applications) put their efforts together to create one form with the disclaimer to allow use of the information in a public forum. MMc needs to see if Risk Manager has any waiver form for our ability to release the information publicly – Action Item
Forms needed for the event for Stamford Risk Manager - MMcGrath

4) Memorial Day - Joe Colavito has reserved the Army quintet for that function-confirmed.

a) A ~~possible~~ parade from Latham Park / Forrest St. to Veterans Park on Sunday 30 May at 11:30, show time 11

AM followed by the ceremony at Veterans Park at 12 noon. ~~All dependent on the Governor's rules~~

- b) Gold Star Monument will be Unveiled
- c) Flags and bunting throughout the City to be put up – FD to assist on bunting on the 2nd floor of Old Town Hall
- d) Joe Colavito to sing the National Anthem
- e) Archie Elam to MC the event
- f) M. McGrath to get invites out to VIPS, Tom Saadi Comm. Of Vets Affairs. -- Cynthia Caban – Register completed the draft invite and will be sending out shortly
- g) Stamford Police Honor Guard – Andy to work gun salute, Fairfield Fyfe and Drum and the Police & Fire Chiefs notified of a ~~possible~~ parade, as well as an invite
- h) Gold Star Families to be the Grand Marshals (GM) 15 Families are attending to date
- i) Courtland Mehl GM sash. – M. McGrath - done
- j) Flags – size and quantity to be verified
- k) Steve Fischer will reach out to Video Streaming Company. – Link ~~coming~~ received
- l) Alan Gerard will reach out to YouTube person.
- m) Pat Parry will host a Breakfast prior to the parade and ceremony at the Police Dept for the Gold Star Families - In Motion, by P. Parry, qty of 55 people. Looking at Breakfast at the ~~Ancient Order of Hibernians~~ at a facility near the Veterans Park.
- n) **Need to email EMS for 30 May event**
- o) Fairfield Fyffe and drum – on board to play. POCs -Ryan McCallister & Brian McCay.

5) P&SEC calendar update – Xavier Shellman verifying the update was sent. M.McGrath will verify Taylor Gray, City webmaster, has received and posted it. – Done. Need to circle back and get historical records on the new website - **M McGrath. 5/17 & 5/25 Reached out to Taylor Gray, City website person.**

6) Time Capsule – Patricia will reach out to Future 5 to get the database and results of their efforts. Date - TBD

7) Official Opening – TBD. The park is expected to be finished 30 June, 2021

8) The Veterans organization and the VPP have voted and support that Mary 8 Nurney, name will be added to the war dead monument. A ceremony to follow with Stamford Hospital, American Red Cross to participate, as she was a member of both, during her service to the nation. – Questions of who has the authority for additions to the monolith in Vets Memorial Park for additional names to be verified. VPP developing their process. **Event Date – TBD**

10) Tony Pavia will be asked to participate to assist P&SEC. – To be asked 3/3 at the Veterans committee meeting. Tony responded; he would like to assist from the afar.

11)A parade was suggested by S Fischer. M.McGrath will call previous participants to see their availability and cost. Calls went out, all schools will not participate. Some organizations are willing. P&SEC to do the budget, call and book participants. Two Radio stations will be contacted by Xavier Shellman. Dave Kaplan to call for availability of participants list.

12)M.McGrath -verified the Veterans budget line is \$11K for Memorial Day

13)Alan Gerard will attempt to get an inventory of gravestone marker flags for Memorial Day. The P&SEC will purchase the needed delta quantity. Graveside flags to arrive on or about 4 May, flag planting event is on 15 May at St Johns and Woodlawn Cemeteries

14 A. Vehicles in the parade must submit their insurance policy 1 week in advance to M. McGrath. *“The Vehicle Owner should provide documentation of a valid Automobile Liability insurance policy covering the vehicle to be used in the Parade. Insurance must include coverage for Liability. (Bodily Injury & Property Damage)”*

14)B. A request to add money to the budget for 2022.

15)Cert team requested, if available.

16)Additional volunteers to assist are: Future Five, DSSD Ambassadors

17)Need: 140 Chairs, PA, bottled water, several long (100ft) power cords- Parks Dept and two porta johns, one at Latham Park, the second at Veterans Park.

18) Tentative meeting schedule until event: May 5, 11, 13, 18, 20, 25, 27 – optional, Wed 2 Jun, Tues 8 Jun, Thur 10 Jun

19)BLT providing trolley transportation during parade. The trolley will need to p.u. the families at the Breakfast location at 10:45.

20)Plaque for Mickey Dolan of Springdale Florist for his generous floral donations for various Veteran ceremonies throughout the years.- Ordered & being engraved

21)M. McGrath - Awaiting the Rabbi (Can't make it this year) and Monsignor's email address- Pat Parry . Monsignor Scheyd to do the opening Prayer. Rev Perry to do the Closing Prayer

22)VIPS – Commissioner Saadi – confirmed and speaking, Sen Murphy will be in touch, no other correspondence, State Sen Miller, Carolyn Simmons attending. Sen Blumenthal will be attending and speaking.

23)P.Parry reports fourteen (16) Gold Star Families will attend, 18 sashes Ordered, but lanyards with the picture of the loved one with name for each member of the Gold Star families (qty ?). M. McGrath and A. Gerard cautioned about the logistics of getting the picture, information and turning it around in time for the Ceremony.

24)Trumpeter, Patrick Grant is available to play Taps. The Army Quintet will be requested to do the 'Echo ' taps .

25)Robert Morales is the POC for the Fire Dept Honor Guard

26)Chief Roach indicates the Brian's flag and truck will be present for the parade.

27)Article for the Stamford Advocate, call. Tony Pavia has already written the article – Chris Munger to Verify. Need to run OpEd ASAP

28)Bernie Wiess has accepted our request for pictures.

29) 15 May is the date for grave side markers to be done.

30) Wilfred Perez, Gold Star father has a trailer with pics of all lost Military from Fairfield County – **Awaiting Insurance info**

31) Two plaques ordered, GM & special contributor.

32) **List of G.S. families to MC Archie Elam**– Pat Parry

33) Roses for all G.S. families – Pat Parry & Springdale Florist

34) Onsite walk thru 29 May at 10 AM.

35) **Rev Perry, a bronze Star recipient, to do the closing prayer**

36) **Speaker order as of 25 May –**

- a. Cmr Saadi,
- b. Helen Kaiser – Peterson – Pres of the Gold Star Mothers CT
- c. Sen Blumenthal(?)
- d. Mayor Martin
- e. Mayor Martin Presents plaque to Mike Doyle , Mike speaks
- f. R Redness – VPP President

37) **Parade postponed to Sun June 13th, same times, 11AM show, 11:30 parade steps off, 12 Ceremony, Dave Kaplan will brief the crowd as to who is still coming as paid / volunteer participants. All Paid participants will participate. Due to the park Gold Star monolith is anticipated NOT to be ready, the focus will just be on the men and woman who lost their lives while on duty. VIPS invite list is the same except the GS families.**

- a. Rabbii Schector will give the closing prayer, Rev Perry will give the Invocation.
- b. One floral wreath will be requested.
- c. Joe Colavito to do the National Anthem.
- d. Steve Fischer verifying the LIVESTREAM will participate.
- e. Chris Munger verifying CER will have several participants.
- f. The Sea Cadets will have a smaller presence.
- g. Pat Parry to reach out to Pat Batennelli and Wilfred Alfredo (two floats).
- h. Troop 15 may not participate – Dave Kaplan verifying.
- i. Capt Barcello - Same street closures, same qty of officers.

The meeting concluded at 12:39. Our next meeting is scheduled for

8 Jun, 2021 at 12:00 PM.

Send agenda and minutes to: Diane Pesiri, & Boards and Commissions