

Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Dick Power called to order the regular meeting of the committee at 1830 hours on 23 JAN 2024 and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. (Attendance: Christian O, Richard M, Greg B, Dick P, Donna S, Melissa B, and Rita M via Zoom)

II. Review and Approval of minutes from last meeting

Minutes from the last meeting were reviewed and approved.

III. Open issues

- a) At the last meeting, the scholarship was discussed but could not be resolved. None present had details, but John Robinson was the proponent and had the details. It was agreed that one scholarship of \$2000 was the goal for a HS senior from a Walpole veteran family. It was understood that the fund was some “in perpetuity” vehicle. Dick will contact John and report the details at the next meeting for decision.
- b) The use of the Veterans Service Gift Account (as differentiated from the Hometown Heroes banner account) was discussed. Assuming the scholarships are not funded from this account, all agreed that there should be a process established to provide support to needy veterans. The Walpole Emergency Medical Aid Fund rules and process were recommended as a model to follow. Dick and Melissa will collaborate to draft a model process for review. The Veterans Service Committee would do approval of funding. If there was an urgent need between meetings, the process of approval by email vote will be evaluated in the context of open meeting rules.
- c) The committee brainstormed a list of the events that needed publicity and the publicity resources that might be useful. It was agreed that Melissa and Dick would draft a press release for the event for the members to use/modify in contacting publicity resources. The list of Events/Activities, Publicity Resources and committee members who would take the lead for each is attached.

IV. New business

- a) Donna delivered \$50.00 collected from the “helmet” at Veterans Day for the Hometown Heroes banner fund.

V. Adjournment

Dick Power adjourned the meeting at 1923 hours.



Minutes submitted by: Melissa Bingham

Minutes approved by:



Brainstorming Session on Publicity

Events/Activities	Publicity Resources
Memorial Day	Social Media – e.g., Facebook; Instagram
Veterans Day	Hometown Weekly
Banners – Hometown Heroes	Electronic signboards in town
Veterans Day week Breakfast	Rt. 1 Electronic billboards
Walpole Day	Local TV stations
Flags for Veterans – Update cemeteries	Hometown TV
Monthly Vets Meeting @ Sr. Center	Banner post on Common
Scholarships for HS students of Vets families	Senior Center Calendar and electronic notices

News Release for each event prepared to use of member responsible for engaging publicity resource. Chair and VSO to prepare.

Responsible member to engage media:

- **Social Media** – Christian and Stacey
- **Hometown Weekly** – Donna
- **Electronic signboards in town** – Melissa
- **Rt. 1 billboards** – Dick to investigate availability for non-profits.
- **Local TV stations** – Christian to investigate; anyone have contact with Gene Lavanchie?
- **Hometown TV** – Dick to investigate.
- **Senior Center notices** - Melissa