

Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Dick Power called to order the regular meeting of the committee at 1830 hours on 27 FEB 2024 and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. (Attendance: John R., Richard M, Greg B, Dick P, Donna S, Rita M., Melissa B, and Ian R.)

II. Review and Approval of minutes from last meeting


Minutes from the last meeting were reviewed and approved.

III. Open issues

- a) John Robinson has a few minor changes to the scholarship summary he will provide to Dick. We can then post the information to our Town Committee website.
- b) The use of the Veterans Service Gift Account (as differentiated from the Hometown Heroes banner account) was reviewed. A draft of a process and information to formalize the use of the fund was distributed, however discussion wasn't ready for the meeting. It was agreed that the document would be forwarded by email for comment and finalized at the April meeting.
- c) Walpole Day will be held on 11 MAY. The committee will staff a table to support initiatives. Rich has reserved reserve us a place with two tables. Rita will arrange for two outreach representatives from the Boston VA. Donna and others will staff the table from 1100 – 1500. Dick will contact Stacy about the popup tent, and we can offer the opportunity (but not solicit) contributions for the Hometown Heroes banners. Ian lives on Lewis and has a barn where we can stage our equipment. He can get it over to the site early.
- d) Memorial Day planning is well underway. We will refresh the flags at the cemeteries on 18 MAY (SAT). Organization of that work will be finalized at the April meeting. Flags are on hand and on order. Memorial Day itself will be held on 27 MAY (MON). Melissa has arranged a veteran speaker from Medfield, invited town and state and federal officials. The formality of reserving the common space must be done. The band is all set as well as the police and fire color guards and police support. Stacy will arrange for the soloist. Still to be resolved is upgrading the sound approach. We may have to engage a person with some speakers and some expertise to make it fully acceptable.

IV. New business

- a) Melissa her departure and introduced Ian Rogers who will succeed her effective 25 MAR. He is an AF veteran who lives in Walpole and plans to be on the job for a while. It is his career goal.

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- b) Support for the VSO with a part-time admin was discussed and Melissa provided some data to support the request for an “investigator.” Town Administrator Johnson seems supportive and is trying to sort out space requirements that will work. Hopefully, this is part of the FY 2025 town budget.
 - c) Dick advised of a conflict with the current meeting date/time. We agreed to shift to the 2d Tuesday vs. the third Tues. at the same 1830 time. Next meeting will then be on 9 APR at 1830 hrs.

V. Adjournment

Dick Power adjourned the meeting at 1924 hours.

Minutes submitted by: Dick Power

Minutes approved by:

