

## Minutes of Marshfield Veterans Council Meeting – October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017

Bob Weaver began announcing that the meeting was being recorded.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 PM with the following Veterans Council Members present: Chairman Robert (Bob) Weaver, DAV; Vice-Chair Jamie, Ducey, DAV; Clerk Heather White, DAVA; Bob Griffin, KWVA; Bruce Anderson, VFW. Absent: American Legion, AMVETS and VFW Auxiliary

- **Donation from the Kiwanis Club**
  - It had been brought to Bob Weavers attention that there had been a \$2000.00 donation made to the Veteran Council by the Kiwanis club. Bob reached out to Barney Dowd inquiring about the donation; Barney said the Veterans Council never received a donation because the council did not open a bank account and/or elect a treasurer. Bob has reached out to the Kiwanis club via email but, has not heard back.
- **Contacting Marshfield Veterans**
  - The council previously discussed how to go about contacting Veterans of Marshfield to encourage participation in the Veterans Council. Bob suggested a mailing be sent to veterans in town but, is open to other suggestions.
- Jamie Ducey motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting as amended, Bob Weaver seconded and the motion carried.
- **Veterans Day Parade**
  - Bob contacted the band director about having a student sing America the Beautiful and the Star Spangled Banner with the band. In the past the only the band played the national anthem. Bill Dodge made the statement that the band might overpower the singer. In previous meeting the council had discussed having a student sing just America the Beautiful at the end of the ceremony. Bob will talk to the band director and what he thinks would sound the best. The band director will also provide two trumpeters for Taps.
  - Bob contacted the clergy on October 2<sup>nd</sup> via email and was awaiting a reply.
  - Permits are all set; Bill Dodge touched base with Kevin Fyler.
  - Per Jamie, trolley is all set
  - Bob Weaver to contact the Selectman's office
  - Bob Griffin said during the Memorial Day Parade his Grandson who was driving the Grand Marshall had to park at the fairgrounds and missed the ceremony. Bill Dodge said we would work that out beforehand.
  - A discussion was had regarding leaving more space between the firetruck and those participating in the parade due to the fumes from the truck.
- **Flags on Graves**
  - Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup> @ 3PM Winslow Cemetery
  - Flags to be ordered by Bill Dodge.
  - Scouts will help to collect the torn and tattered flags and replace them with new flags. If the flags are in good condition they will not need to be replaced.
  - New Veterans Graves Officer needs to be identified and appointed by the Board of Selectmen; previous officer Barney Dowd does not wish to be reappointed. The Veterans Graves Officer needs to be a resident of the Town of Marshfield. Veterans' Graves Officer needs to make sure the graves of veterans in the Town of Marshfield are cared for and the graves are decorated for Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Bill Dodge

asked that the word be put out to each of the groups. Position has been posted at the DAV. If no one is interested Bob said he could help out until a Graves Officer is found.

- The group may divide and concord in the interest of time.
- Cemeteries to be covered are Winslow, Cedar Grove, Marshfield Hills, Couch
- Flags to be stored at the DAV until disbursement. Bill to contact Jamie when the flags have been delivered.
- **Flags on the Poles**
  - Brackets and Flags are at the VFW
  - Bill suggested that the flags be hung in the morning, when there is less traffic and possibly on the weekend.
  - Bill and Jamie have the manpower to get it done. Jamie want to double check that they are all high enough and at the right angle to make sure they are not knock down by a tractor-trailer.
  - Jamie stated the if the holders are placed at 13', that would put the flags at 15' and would then not be knock down by a tractor-trailer as the high of the truck would not exceed 13'9".
  - Jamie said he thinks there were 8 or 9 flags missing from the poles.
  - Bob and Jamie to coordinate with Bruce Anderson as the flags and brackets are at the VFW. Also, will need to touch base with Tom Reynolds from the DPW.
  - In the past the flags were taken down after Memorial Day and Veterans Day. The decision was made to keep the flags up all year but, if the flags continue to get beat up and cost money to replace we may need to reevaluate.
  - Bill suggest contacting Kevin Fyler the town Safety Officer and member of the VFW for police coverage.
  - DAV to bring the flag for the parade
  - Backup plan for inclement weather is to have the ceremony inside at the Middle School. Each year we will need to fill out a building request form to reserve the auditorium. Bill and Carin took care of fill out the request.
- **Town Meeting – Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup> 7PM – Marshfield High School**
  - Support in needed at the town meeting to support the Veterans house article.
  - Article is being presented by Bob Mather
  - Bill discussed the need for this housing in general; there are not currently any homeless vets in Marshfield.
- **Marshfield High School swim team is looking for a flag to be donated for home swim meets**
  - Season runs through October.
  - Donations are welcomed.
- **Open Discussion**
  - Bob Griffin stated he would like the absentee organizations to be written in the minutes going forward
  - Motion was made to have a standing meeting on the first Monday of every month however, the motion was not voted upon.
- **Next meeting to be held on the Monday, October 6<sup>th</sup>,2017 7PM – Town Hall**

**Meeting ended at 7:50.**