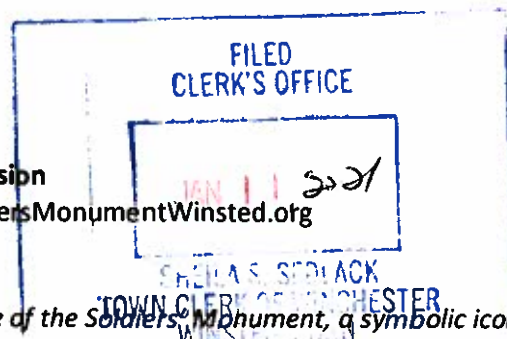


Town of Winchester
Soldiers' Monument Commission
P.O. Box 322 • Winsted, CT 06098 • www.SoldiersMonumentWinsted.org



Mission Statement

The commission recognizes the historical importance and aesthetic value of the Soldiers' Monument, a symbolic icon of the town of Winchester. Our mission is to protect, preserve, and enhance this nationally-recognized landmark while providing a clean and safe park for all residents and visitors.

MINUTES
For the Monthly Meeting
Thursday, November 12, 2020
Held at 7 P.M. via Zoom Conference Call due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Jack Bourque – Chairman
Steve Dew – Vice-Chairman
Deborah Kessler- Secretary
Lynn Kessler –Treasurer
Virginia Shultz-Charette

Noreen Marchand
Sheila Sedlack
Steven Silvester
Douglas Werner

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 P.M. by Jack Bourque.

The members in attendance were:

- Jack Bourque
- Steve Dew
- Deb Kessler
- Lynn Kessler
- Noreen Marchand
- Sheila Sedlack
- Doug Werner

Member(s) Absent and Excused:

- Virginia Shultz- Charette

Member(s) Absent and Not Excused:

- Steven Silvester

2. Agenda Review: None

3. Public Comment: Both Verna Gilson and Thomas Sullivan were invited to attend the meeting. No response from Thomas Sullivan.

4. Approval of Secretary's Minutes for Thursday, September 10, 2020; October 8, 2020– Deb

September minutes were not available for review.

October minutes were reviewed. Motion made by Lynn to accept the minutes, seconded by Noreen.

Unanimous approval.

5. Treasurer's Report

Lynn reviewed the following:

Status of budget and restoration accounts

Operating Budget and expenses for FY21

Status of Store Account – petty cash; Park Place Hardware balance (230.98 as of 11/12/2020)

Additional donations for restoration (none)

- Bill from TLB to be paid from the restoration account. \$380 has been encumbered.
- Current fiscal year information is available. New format provided by the finance office raised some questions. In particular, the electricity appears to be encumbered. Lynn will forward the budget sheets to Jack so that he may speak with the finance department.
- The treasurer's report was tabled for further discussion until the January meeting.

6. Communications:

- Mail or Email
 - From the website a message from Noah and Judy Sloane.

7. Monument and Grounds Activity Status Reports:

- Building status:
 - Interior conditions – First Floor window replacement issues with J. Pedrolini/R. Goulet (Sullivan Glass) Status Report; Stair Removal and replacement carpentry for the stairs.
 - Discussion regarding the style of the 2nd and 3rd floor windows.
 - On a very moist day, with the first-floor windows closed, J. Pedrolini met with Jack and Lynn to show them the moisture issue within the monument. There is not enough air circulation with the vent solely on the back window. The vent on the roof is not sufficient. J. Pedrolini is suggesting that the apex of every window have a vent.
- Grounds status
 - Cannon bases: ongoing discussion with J. Schwaikert – this will likely begin the spring.
 - Verna shared a photo and new information regarding the cannons. They were donated by Mrs. Thomas Clarke sometime between 1890-1899.
 - Steve D. will send Verna cannon information from his contact at NPS Antietam.
- Other:
 - Jack spoke with Mike F. who believes that additional ventilators will help the moisture issue. He will create new window designs to incorporate this. He did express concern that the third-floor window apex is small. James disagrees with Mike F.

Old Business:

- Continued development of special "friends" group volunteer base. Deb
 - Deb would like to create a share document (perhaps using Google docs) so that she and Sheila can easily update the volunteer information.
- Soldiers' Monument YouTube channel special video by Steve Buchanan – thank you card sent by Sheila; pewter ornament delivered.
 - Sheila has not sent thank you card/ornament yet.
- New merchandise: pewter ornaments and COVID-19 masks available.
 - Jack has been promoting the ornaments for sale on Facebook.
 - Discussed creating SoMo Christmas cards using some of Holly's photos from past monument events. This could be a project for the volunteer group.
- Street signs in place with plexiglass protection – Doug
 - Ongoing project. Doug needs to purchase more plexiglass from Park Place Hardware.
- Participation in Winchester 250 play on Saturday, November 13, 2021 – ongoing
 - Jack is currently working on Act 2
 - Verna has been assisting in research.

- Other: None

New Business:

- Installing lights for “Christmas Tree” – done, November 8th.
 - Steve D. and Jack installed the tree but had some complications in the process.
 - Initial plan had to been to turn on for Thanksgiving however, in celebration of Doug’s granddaughter Lily’s upcoming birthday they will be turned on Friday, November 13th.
- Closing driveway with chains and cones – Noreen and Peter after Thanksgiving
 - J. Pedrolini asks that there be no permanent lock on the chain so that he can get in to work. Only needed on the entry side.
- Discussion with Verna Gilson regarding “historian” and membership
 - Would accept the opportunity to be a commission member if a seat were open.
 - Is working on gathering and organizing monument history in the research room at the library.
- Park Use Form – review and vote on Lynn’s revision
 - Lynn to send final version to Jack for review by the town attorney.
- Contact Letter and status of non-responsive commission member
 - Last month Jack began the process to remove Steve Silvester as a commission member
 - A letter was sent to Steve S. letting him know that he has been missed at meetings, etc. No response from Steve S.
 - After the October meeting Noreen provided the town regulations for commission members and based on that information, we are in our rights to dismiss him at this time.
- Other: None

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 P.M.

Next Monthly Scheduled Meetings:

- January 14, 2021
- February 11, 2021