

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

Wednesday, December 18, 2019

Held in the third-floor conference room, Winchester Town Hall, 6 P.M.

(Note: one-time monthly meeting day and time changed as approved in October meeting.)

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 6:05 P.M. by Steve Dew.

The members in attendance were:

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

Member(s) Absent and Excused: Jack Bourque, Virginia Shultz-Charette and Steve Silvester

Member(s) Not Excused:

2. Agenda Review: None

3. Public Comment: None

4. Approval of Secretary's Minutes for Thursday, October 10, 2019

Lynn made a motion to accept, Sheila seconded. Unanimous approval.

5. Treasurer's Report

Lynn reviewed and explained that there are no changes at this time:

Status of budget and restoration accounts

Budget for 2019-20

Expense Status Encumbered in 2018-19 budget

Status of store account

Additional donations for restoration since the last meeting. None

- Sheila has not been selling much candy recently but asked Noreen to pick up 4 additional boxes.

Doug made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, Noreen seconded. Unanimous Approval.

6. Communications: None

7. Monument and Grounds Activity Status Reports:

- Building status:
 - Interior conditions
 - Conditions set on First Floor for winter work and closure
 - Roof Inspection: report from Tremco available in January
 - Christmas tree lights: Jack will shut off on January 10
- Grounds status
 - Flag is down for Winter – Jack and Steve D. took care of this.
 - Driveway barriers are in place – Noreen and Peter took care of this.
 - Trash removal is on-going
 - Picnic Tables reposition – on-going
 - Driveway condition –paving completed. All who have seen it report it looks good.
 - Tree Cutting in 2019 on-going discussion
 - Other: Jack and Steve D. replaced some lights.

Old Business:

- Participation in October 29th Winsted Trails – those who participated thought it was a nice event and would take part again if invited.
- Report on Veterans' Day opening. Doug was unable to attend. Noreen and Steve S. covered the opening
 - Reading of the Gettysburg Address – Steve S.
 - Approximately 25 people attended.
- Merchandise put away for winter: audit to be completed before the Memorial Day opening.
- Development of special "friends" group volunteer base. No new information. Deb plans to contact the current members as we start to plan for 2020.
- Cemetery Walk for 2020
 - Location: Deb and Lynn suggest the Rowley Street Cemetery, lower section to include the Gilbert Home.
 - Advance scouting/research to be conducted in January or February depending on the weather.
 - Date confirmation: Saturday, October 17th with a rain date, October 18th.
- 2019 fund raising letter status – Steve S., Sheila and Noreen. Sheila and Noreen report that the letter is ready to go and being printed by Goulet. They believe that a combination of households and local businesses will be sent a letter. The sub-committee decided on a folded letter and envelope.
- Window replacement with James Pedrolini
 - Work is currently on hold
 - Steve D. reported that M. Matthews from the glass company advised that TLB rewrite the definition of what is needed for the window project. The rewrite will bring the cost down due to the exclusion of certain terminology and requirements that were not needed for this project. They are "boiler plate" phrases left in place inadvertently. This should also allow for more people to quote the job.
 - There is a great deal of preparation that needs to be done prior to ordering the windows.

New Business:

- Participation in Winchester 250 events – plans are developing for our closing event in November 2021. Jack is organizing; committee will begin to choose the top 12 historical characters from all of the cemetery walks; begin to discuss with the actors/participants.
- Suggestions/recruiting of new commission member. No suggestions yet.
- Suggestions for major summer event at the monument in 2020 – Sheila proposed a picnic with live music and entry charge. Another suggestion was to reprise the WW2 living history and Big Band Dance event.
- Other:

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 P.M.

Next Monthly Scheduled Meetings:

- January 9, 2020
- February 13, 2020
- March 12, 2020