

**Town of Winchester**  
**Soldiers' Monument Commission**  
P.O. Box 322 • Winsted, CT 06098 • [www.SoldiersMonumentWinsted.org](http://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, July 12, 2018**

**Held in the third-floor conference room, Winchester Town Hall, 7 P.M.**

**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 P.M. by Jack Bourque. The members in attendance were:

- Jack Bourque
- Noreen Marchand
- Sheila Sedlack
- Deb Kessler
- Lynn Kessler
- Virginia Shultz- Charette
- Doug Werner

**2. Agenda Review: None**

**3. Public Comment: None**

**4. Approval of Secretary's Minutes for June 14, 2018**

Minutes approved. Motion made by Lynn, seconded by Virginia. Unanimous approval.

**5. Treasurer's Report**

Status of budget, savings, and restoration accounts was discussed. This represented the end of fiscal year 2018. A motion was made by Sheila to accept the report as presented. It was seconded by Virginia. Doug abstained. Unanimous approval.

Virginia reported that she had received a donation during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July opening.

**6. Communications:** A thank you note was received from Sylvia Bovi regarding the June 16<sup>th</sup> ceremony which honored her at the monument.

**7. Monument and Grounds Activity Status Reports:**

- Building status:
  - Interior conditions
    - Stairway painting – on hold until the repointing has been completed.
  - Exterior conditions
    - Repointing restoration

All is progressing well. Jack has sent photos to the commission to update all as the work continues. Mike P. is having a walk through on July 19<sup>th</sup> and Jack would like SoMo members to try to attend. Lynn stated that he will be there. The architects are happy with the progress and quality of the work. Jack reported that the process is rather slow but meticulous. They are removing all old mortar and hand packing in the new mortar.

- Grounds status
  - Grounds clean-up, flower planting, trash removal
    - The grass is being mowed regularly and the flowers look great.
  - Driveway condition and possible fix

Jim Rollins is aware of the condition of the driveway but unsure when it might be repaired.

- Walkway bricks

The project is on hold for now. Jack would like to discuss this element with Jim (mason) and is also interested in asking him about repairing the cannon stanchions with the leftover mortar. If he is unable to do this sort of job, we can wait until the fall and have John S. do the repair work.

**Old Business:**

- Celebration day, June 16, 2018
  - All in all a very positive day for the monument. Once again advertising and getting advance press appears to be problematic. We had a great turnout in the morning but it dwindled during the afternoon.
  - Many people have asked if we would do it again. Discussion about another event in 2020 perhaps in East End Park for better visibility. Not all SoMo members want to change the venue.
  - The dance was a huge success with a standing room only crowd. People would like to see us host this again but at a larger venue.
  - Sheila will send thank you notes to the people who volunteered to help make it a successful day.
- Cemetery Walk – South Road Cemetery 2018 update
  - Deb, Noreen and Virginia plan to scout the cemetery locations on July 13<sup>th</sup>.
  - Confirm date— Saturday, October 20; rain date Sunday, October 21
  - Volunteers for Cemetery walk

Sheila is coordinating with a variety of organizations including Regional 7, Gilbert School, the Boy Scouts and the Fire Department and Ambulance Youth Groups.

- Website and Facebook presence – on hold (Jack)
- Video security system -- on hold (Sheila)
- Other: Sheila reported that we need to have a W-9 form for Jim (mason).

**New Business:**

- Labor Day opening: Sheila?
- Continuing search for display case and table for 2<sup>nd</sup> floor: No one has located a suitable display case yet.
- Other: It was suggested by Bruce Stratford (Finance Director) that SoMo create value added items to our regular openings. He recently attended an event where the Declaration of Independence was read and thought how nice it would be for the monument to take on such an endeavor. The commission discussed this and plan to have a reading of the Gettysburg Address at the Veteran's Day opening, November 11<sup>th</sup>. Jack will be planning the event. Deb will reach out to local reenactors for possible participants.
- Meeting dates information for:
  - August 9<sup>th</sup> meeting will be cancelled.
  - September 13<sup>th</sup>: Jack is unable to attend. The commission opted to keep this date.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned by Jack Bourque at 8:45 P.M.

Next Monthly Scheduled Meeting: September 13, 2018