TOWN OF PUTNAM CT VETERANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (VAC)

Tuesday, November 1, 2022 @ 7:00 PM

Putnam Municipal Complex

Community Room

200 School Street

Putnam, CT Also

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1. Call to Order by the Committee Chairman
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Public Comment – 3 – minute maximum per person
4. Approval of the Minutes
   1. Minutes from October 11, 2022, VAC Meeting
5. Communications
6. Reports of Standing Committees
   1. Cemetery Committee
   2. Flagpole Grove Street Monument
7. Reports of Special Committee
   1. Report from Chicken BBQ Committee
8. Unfinished Business
   1. Veterans Park
9. Grant Considerations and Updates
10. New Business
    1. Plan for Radio Fundraiser for Grove Street Monument
11. Public Comment – 3- minute maximum per person
12. Adjournment

TO BE APPROVED

Veterans Advisory Committee Meeting

Minutes of October 11, 2022

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| TOPIC | | DISCUSSION | |
| PRESENT:    ABSENT: | | Robert Challinor Jr., Hans W. Lowell, David Gilbert, Alan R. Joslin, Michael Vassar, Jim Bradley, Mayor Barney Seney (Ex Officio – Town of Putnam Executive Head).  Brian Maynard, Willie Bousquet (Ex Officio – Town of Putnam Parks and Recreation Department Head) | |
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| 1. | Call to Order | called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM | |
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| 2. | Pledge of Allegiance |  | |
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| 3. | Public Comment |  | None |
| 4. | Approval of the  Minutes |  | Approval of 13Sep2022 Committee Minutes carried unanimously. |
| 5. | Communications |  | Communications were null, but discussions were made to request mail to be received at: Town of Putnam, C/O Veterans Advisory Committee, 200 School Street, Putnam CT 06260. |
| 6. | Reports of Standing  Committees |  | Cemetery Project reports that a list of Veterans buried in each cemetery in the Town of Putnam is being digitized currently. Future goal is to include GPS coordinated of each burial location as well, to be updated at findagrave.com. |
| 7. | Reports of Special  Committees | A  B  C | Special Project reports that Mr. Haydecker's (Troop 25) Eagle Project at the Grove Street Monument has completed. This will be followed by the Committee's recommendation to replace the Flagpole at that location (Quoted at $4,720 from Narragansett Flags):  -Fundraiser: October 23rd, all Vet's Organizations will participate in a Chicken BBQ at the Knights of Columbus immediately following the Town Beirut Memorial. Tickets will be $15.00 a person and will be available at: WINY, VFW Canteen, American Legion Members, the Elks, and the Knights of Columbus Canteen.  -Fundraiser: November 4th, American Legion and Mayor Barney Seney will be doing a drive-thru fundraiser at WINY.  Veteran’s Park (127 Church Street) – The Parks and Recreation Department, Albert J. Breault Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1523, American Legion Post 21, the Veteran’s Coffee House and other local Veterans have been working on a proposal for redesigning the grounds and re-configuring the Veteran’s Memorials to accommodate Putnam’s revitalization and any future need for Memorials for Veterans. Bid for the fencing the divide the Congregation B’nai Shalom Synagogue and Park property still needed. Mayor Seney will contact Congressman Joe Courtney’s Office to seek a Grant to assist with Funding of this project. The Beirut Memorial has been received by the Town and is awaiting this project for installation. Deary Electrical is being consulted for Electrical needs at the location. The VFW and American Legion will be contacting their respective Foundations for financial grants to assist this project. Future sale of Commemorative Bricks to encircle the Flagpole will also assist with the funds needed for this location.  Local Cemeteries – VFW Post 1523 has opened discussions with the Saint Mary’s Church Cemetery Association and the Park Street Cemetery Association to discuss Liabilities in an ongoing project to locate and restore all Local Veteran’s burial markers within the Town. Research is still needed on local privately owned Cemeteries to identify if there are any Local Veterans that have missed being honored in burial. The VFW Post will put together Liability Binders for the Cemetery Associations for project work. This project is to uphold the Town of Putnam’s legal responsibility through CT General Statutes Title 27, Chapter 506 § 27-123. Discussion on establishing the 3 appointed Veterans for the Cemetery oversight task force taken and tabled. Alan Joslin, David Gilbert and Hans Lowell identified as points of contact. |
| 8. | Unfinished Business |  | Veterans Park – Willie will get prints out to all the members. Mayor Seney will get a quote for the sidewalk. |
| 9. | Grant Consideration and Updates |  | NONE |
| 10. | New Business |  | Discussion recommending that the Town Accredited Service Officer utilize the Department of Veteran's Affairs training to fulfill the Accredited title and offer local Veterans assistance with VA issues and filing in a more official capacity. |
| 11. | Public Comment |  | NONE |
| 12. | Adjournment |  | Mayor Seney made a motion to adjourn at 7:55 PM. The motion was seconded by Michael Vassar and passed unanimously. |