

Town of Hope Mills  
Veterans Affairs Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, June 27, 2019

1. Meeting called to order at 1800 by Grilley Mitchell.
2. Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Roll Call:

Members

Guests

Grilley Mitchell  
Meghan Freeman  
Ron Maury  
Jessie Bellflowers  
Jim Blevins  
John Cook  
Elizabeth Cooper  
Jim Morris  
Bill Greene

Not present: Clinton Murray, Al Ferri & Greg Dickerson.

4. Agenda was approved with the following change:
  - a. Item added (j) to discuss the Fourth of July Parade.
5. Meeting minutes from the May 23, 2019, meeting were approved as written.
6. Old Business:
  - a. Hero's Homecoming: **(Open)**
    - i. Gold Star Plaque installed by bench. Make new plaque with 2019 date.
      - A. Present the plaque at the Gold Star dinner on 7 November at FTCC.  
Possibly 60 families.
      - B. Install the plaque at the Post 10630 Veterans Day Ceremony.
    - ii. Chamber to host Chili cook-off at Dirtbag Ales on Saturday, 9 November.
      - A. Disposition of money raised?
      - B. Disposition of money raised last year?
      - C. Still need to talk to them.
    - iii. Possibility to get the Golden Knights? Still TBD. At beginning of VFW Post 10630 ceremony?
    - iv. Millstone Theater movie. Movie and time TBD.
    - v. Bell ringing at 1100.
    - vi. Reading names immediately following. Need to work on the list. Ask Gold Star Families to honor them.
    - vii. VFW Post 10630 ceremony at 1500.
    - viii. Talk to local businesses, schools and other places about setting up a "Missing Man Table".
    - ix. Create displays for the library and possibly schools. Get ROTC's involved.
    - x. Collect World War II articles.

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- xi. County meeting will be July 26, 2019, 1130, in the Pate Room at the Cumberland County Library.
- xii. Our inputs due to the County by July 26, 2019.
- xiii. Our theme will be Normandy 75.
- xiv. Release real doves? Need to identify number and price.
- b. Artillery piece painting – Tabled until the next meeting. **(Open)**
- c. Fundraising – Tabled until the next meeting. **(Open)**
- d. September Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. **(Open)**
  - i. Proclamation – Will e-mail to everyone for review and comments.
  - ii. Information table at the Food Truck Rodeo on Thursday, September 5, 2019.
- e. Purple Heart Dinner – Town to purchase a table (8 places) for August 24, 2019 ceremony.

7. New Business:

- a. Names for the Memorial. **(Open)**
  - i. Pete Warner, Navy during WWII
  - ii. Frederick Paul Dallas
  - iii. Mr. Stanley, need to contact Kathy Rullo (check spelling)
  - iv. Chief John Hodges
  - iv. Unanimous vote for different name plates that cost \$10
- b. Update on Memorial Repairs. **(Open)**
  - i. Margo is the point-of-contact.
  - ii. Don Sisco to find repairman. More to follow.
  - iii. Not cracked. Seal is dry rotted allowing water to get into the crack.
- c. Reaching out to disabled, special needs and elderly for discussion. – tabled **(Open)**
- d. Changes to VA benefits. **(Open)**
  - i. Speaker at next meeting. American Legion Service Officer or Veterans Service Officer from Fort Bragg.
- e. Fourth of July parade. 1000. Will have a truck in the parade. **(Closed)**

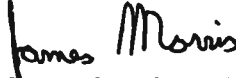
8. Around the table:

- a. Let Ron know if there is anyone who needs a 50 Anniversary Vietnam pin.
- b. We should get Polo Shirts and/or hats to better identify ourselves in public.
- c. Consolidate meeting list(s) on Facebook page.
- d. Venturing Crew won many awards.
- e. We need to find ways to get Kelly West involved.

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- e. Police Chief wake tomorrow, funeral on Saturday.
- 9. Next meeting is scheduled for July 25, 2019, at 1800.
- 10. Meeting Adjourned at 1857.

  
GRILLEY MITCHELL  
Chairman

  
JAMES MORRIS  
Secretary