

East Windsor Veterans Commission
Meeting Minutes
Thursday October 12, 2023 7pm
11 Rye Street
Broad Brook, CT 06016

Call to order 7PM

Pledge led by Jim Barton

Attendance: Jim Barton, Mary Morgan, Dan Morgan, Scott Morgan, Bruce Putinas, Bob Lyke, Ed Filipone, Rick Webster, Peter Sanders

Public Session: Debbie Williams from the East Windsor Arts and Culture would like to collaborate with the Veterans Commission. They would like to make their wooden door project for different veteran's events, this door can be used as a place for people to take selfies and stuff. They would also help the Veteran's Commission make a logo. The Veterans Commission would like to have a door made and help with a logo. They would like a waving flag, and possibly the saying: all gave some, some gave all. Thank you for offering this project to us.

Added Agenda Item: NA

Secretary Report

Motion to approve the meeting minutes from the September 13, 2023 meeting as presented Bob Lyke, Scott Morgan second. All in favor

Treasurer Report:

Starting Balance:	\$33,512.30
Sponsor deposits:	\$14,428.00
Runner deposits:	\$560.00
In-kind donation:	\$1000.00
Paver order:	\$50.00
Total	\$47967.30
Vas Program	+ \$3000.00
Expense:	-\$2679.26
Ending Balance	\$50,288.13

Motion to approve the treasurer report as presented Scott Morgan, Bruce Putinas second. All in favor

Chairman report: I have been in contact with the shirt company. We need to place the order for the shirts soon. She did suggest a white shirt to cut down on the colors, we had previously voted on a neon green shirt. The town hall did receive a complaint on our registration form. This complaint was about the genders listed on the race registration form. They are asking for a transgender option. As of right now, we are keeping the registration form the same, we do not exclude anyone from the race. We have two categories for winners. Discussion of the race forms and other road races locally. Manchester also has two gender categories.

Committee Reports

Fundraising: Ed: I am concerned with the sponsor list this year. We have lost some of our long-time sponsors, the money is coming in slowly. We did gain a few new sponsors. Every year it is getting harder and harder to secure the sponsors. Jim: You guys are doing a great job. We have forms here if anyone needs one. Discussion of registration forms, and how the public can get them. The link to the online registration form is now on the Facebook page. We need to make sure the information and forms are easily available. Forms are on the veterans Facebook page, the Town website, and the timing company's website.

Publicity/Service Officer: Bob will check with local newspapers on putting the race information in the paper. The race poster has been put up around town, on the Facebook page. Bob has an issue with Facebook, he can no longer post on the page. Jim: I think we should add the Facebook logo to the signs around town so people know they can get the forms and information there. Discussion of paying for advertising or going with free options. Bob: enough constructive criticism. We are all volunteers. Jim: We all have an assignment to do. Bob: We need more members to help. Peter: We could hire an event planner to do the work. Scott: I have a friend at 97.9 who is willing to give out the information on his radio show. Rick: Are we more interested in free advertising or paying for it? Jim: We need to use all the free options before we start paying for it. We need to do a better job of getting the word out. Rick: We could send it to patch, QTR town newsletter, Mr. Bowsza is going to give out the information on one of his phone messages. I am willing to help Bob get the word out on the race. Bob: The VAS flyer Melissa made is great. Discussion of benefits for veterans and two major passions; Agent Orange and PTSD. We should do a coffee hour for veterans in East Windsor. Discussion of the coffee hour. It will be added to the next agenda. The town's annual report was submitted. Jim: Bob do you have a way to find a local Veteran in need? Bob: No, I do not go out and find veterans in need. Discussion of local veterans in need and how to help them.

Memorial Day 2024: NA

Cemetery- Cemetery Flags: Please everyone needs to check the cemeteries they are assigned to before Veterans Day.

Veterans Assistance Program: We need to find a way to get the word out that we are here to help local veterans in need. Peter will develop a letter to be sent out to veterans in East Windsor letting them know about the VAS program.

Road Race November 11, 2023:

Shirt counts:

Small 35

Med 65

Large 125

XL 69

XXL 4

3XL 3 for a total of 300 shirts

Dan will call the priest on Tuesday

Nick Macsata is going to be our Military speaker for the road race.

Mark has the medallions for the race.

Our next meeting is for set up on November 10th at 4 pm

Veterans Day event at the school, the dress code is EW Veterans jacket, red shirt, tan pants, and hat.

It will be on Friday, let me know if you are interested in attending.

Rick is in contact with the middle school track and field coach. They have 10 students already signed up to run. Rick will follow up with them and the high school coach.

Wreaths Across America 2023: Dan will speak with the pastor, still looking for a singer for the event.
December 16th @ noon

New Business:

Calendar 2024: Motion to approve the 2024 calendar of meetings Scott Morgan, Bruce Putinas second.
All in favor

Jim: We need to stay on topic, if anyone has ideas they would like to discuss please let me know before the meeting so we can add it to the agenda.

Old Business: NA

Correspondence: NA

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 Scott Morgan, Bruce Putinas second. All in favor

Submitted by Jill Caron