

Veterans Memorial Committee Meeting Minutes

07/8/2021

Attendance: Sandra Lane, Lara Decker, Russie Lane, Andrea Cox, Frank Montuori, Janet Montuori, Rick Poland, Will Holden, Bill Benner, Ken Perley

Updates: Andrea spoke with Peter Anderson and got a rough estimate of costs for the materials and labor for Phase I - to construct an 8' wide walking path with finished packed $\frac{3}{4}$ " gravel approximately 500' long. The top layer will accommodate walking, strollers and wheelchairs. The base construction would support future installation of pavers or another top layer. She thinks the approximate cost for this would be \$25,000, but will have Peter check her calculations. Total duration of construction for Phase I will be 1-2 weeks, depending on materials availability and weather. Peter Anderson has agreed to be the Project Manager for this project.

Andrea asked Lara about a possible Home Depot grant for this project which could help provide materials. Since the construction of the path would not use a lot of materials from Home Depot, the grant could be applied for and used for Phase II.

Will asked if there was a place for contractors to dump materials as they are donated. Andrea said Peter would determine that when the project gets started. Will also suggested some new signage that would draw attention to the project.

The group looked at the last known total for money raised and it is believed to be around \$8,000 - \$9,000 but the group is waiting for confirmation from the Town Office. Andrea had a potential donor contact her last week and Lara knows of a summer resident who also wants to donate.

Bill asked if Peter could come and lay out the project so people will see some progress. This would help people see where and what to donate which will help get the project moving.

Andrea thinks Peter should be given a date for when the group needs certain things to get started. Ken suggested getting a commitment from him to mark out where the path will be so the group could mark the path with the US flags that are lining the property on Bristol Road currently.

Rick talked about a tree dedicated to John Steer who was killed in Vietnam which was planted at the swimming hole. It is currently planted on ledge and is not doing very well. The group discussed either moving the tree or planting a new tree in the Veterans Memorial with a dedication. Andrea suggested planting this tree as a groundbreaking ceremony for the Veterans Memorial.

Ken talked about gathering the list of veterans which included everyone who was born in Bristol, died in Bristol lived in Bristol and/or are buried in Bristol. Rick asked if the list included Louds Island and Marsh Island and Ken said they are included. His list currently has approximately 700 names, but he knows there are at least 300 more. Bill noticed that in the Bristol Mills cemetery, people have put flags on the graves of sea captains, which might confuse people into thinking they are veterans. Bill believes that Bristol veterans should be determined by the people that went into the service while they were living in Bristol. This is the criteria that most other towns use to determine their veterans listed on their memorials. Lara asked Ken if it would be difficult to determine where these veterans lived when they went into the service, and he thought it would be. Bill thought using draft board records from Wiscasset would be helpful.

Bill said the Bristol Village Improvement Society (BVIS) would be willing to donate money and that starting a fundraising effort would work well so that they could match a certain amount of funds raised.

Next Steps:

Andrea will ask Peter to mark the path and explain where a staging area might be. Ken suggested putting up a sign for the staging area that indicates where material donations can be dropped. Lara can make some laminated signs to mark these areas.

Lara will reach out to known potential donors to see if they would like to donate to Phase I.

Andrea will talk to Peter about line items for material donations.

Lara will get a total of how much money has been raised so far.

Lara will submit a press release once the group knows how much money is needed and a project start date.

Next Meeting:

July 29, 2021 at 4pm