Veterans Memorial Committee Meeting Minutes

10/28/2021

Attendance:

Sandra Lane, Lara Decker, Andrea Cox, Ken Perley, Peter Anderson, Jean Reilly McGinn, Chuck Farrell, Russie Lane

Updates:

Sandra Guibord has notified the Town that she would like to pass along a cannon to the care of the Parks Department to be displayed in the Veterans Memorial. The group was very excited about this and thought it would be a great addition to the memorial.

Lara informed the group that she recently wrote a grant for the Parks Department that included funding for wheelchair accessible picnic tables, and she included one for the Veterans Memorial. If the grant funding isn't approved, Lara believes that people might be interested in donating memorial picnic tables for the project anyway and it would be good to get wheelchair accessible ones since there would likely be veterans in wheelchairs visiting this memorial.

Chad Hanna expressed an idea about how to personalize the memorial without having to list names. He suggested showing numbers (on plaques) indicating people from the Bristol community that were in each conflict. The spreadsheet that Ken put together has a column showing the conflicts people were involved in which could be used to help find the totals. If visitors see the number of people involved in each conflict from the Bristol community and knows their loved one was part of that number, it will help personalize their experience.

Andrea spoke to the Lincoln County News about the press release announcing the celebration and groundbreaking on Veterans Day. They will be sending a reporter to the next meeting and the Veterans Celebration/Groundbreaking ceremony. The press release was read aloud and finalized at this meeting.

Planning of the Veterans Celebration/Groundbreaking Ceremony was discussed. It will start at 10 am and the 1812 farm will be providing coffee and muffins. The group discussed having a tent set up outside but if the weather is not good the refreshments could be offered inside Ellingwood. A meeting will be held next week to plan where everything will be set up for the event.

Chuck talked about OBHS' involvement with the time capsule and how it could be incorporated into the Veterans Celebration/Groundbreaking Ceremony.

Sandra has been notified about an anchor to be donated for the memorial. Sandra suggested that Andrea and Ken go check it out with her before snowfall.

Next Steps:

Make a list of donors who should be invited to the groundbreaking

Contact Town Administrator & Selectmen about groundbreaking

Arrange for the tent, chairs, and hay bales to be delivered to Ellingwood.

Next Meeting:

November 4, 2021, at 4pm