

Vietnam Memorial Committee

Zoom Video Conf, 5:12 PM

Meeting Notes – August 25, 2021

Present:

Jerry Guthrie (Chairman/Veteran); Douglas Cave (Vice Chairman/Recorder/VFW); Rodney Dellafelice (Conservation Commission); Rick Mossey (Veteran/1st Congregational Church member), John Weidman (Professional Sculptor/Technical Advisor), Gene Gregory (Veteran).

Lincoln Daley had a conflicting meeting and was not able to arrive until 1755.

Minutes from last meeting:

- Minutes from 5/26/2021 Reviewed: Rick made a motion to accept, Rodney seconded. Jerry, Rodney, Rick, and Doug approved the minutes as amended.

1. Fund Raising:

- Donation checks should be made out to “Vietnam Memorial”, and are being collected by Tina Philbrick in the Town Hall. Checks are preferred, however, cash can be accepted but will need to be converted into a Money Order before it is submitted to Town Hall for final deposit.
- Go Fund Me website:
 - Need to verify that the Bank account information is correct. The account number changed when it was transferred to Doug, and again changed when it was moved to the VFW bank account.
 - Will need to check with Lincoln to verify Go Fund Me account information.
- Donations collected:
 - Collection breakdown
 - Vietnam Memorial donations collected and held by the town: Estimate is \$10,243 in town account. The bank account has \$104 in it, for an estimated grand total of around \$15,847 pledged.
 - Construction on the wall will begin when we have raised \$50,000.
 - Public Donation Sign
 - Still planning to erect a thermometer styled donation sign near the WWII memorial. We are not ready to place the sign, would like to have the donation total a little bit higher before putting it up. Lincoln can help with the sign creation.
 - We can post information on the VFW sign.
- Bricks and Retaining Wall:
 - Plan to do the bricks at the same time as the retaining wall.
 - When donations reach \$50,000.
- Election day:
 - There are no elections this year.
- Facebook:
 - Information about our Go Fund Me will be added to the link.
 - In progress
 - Will see if we can have information posted on Milford Community Facebook.

- Pumpkin Festival:
 - Pumpkin Festival will be a physical event this year in the downtown area on October 8, 9, and 10, 2021.
 - Our plan is to have a display only on Saturday.
 - Rodney and Doug can help with this, Jerry will be out of town.
 - Doug will be present in the morning, and Rodney will follow.
 - Would like to set-up in the WWII Memorial Park, will need to talk to Kevin to coordinate a location.
 - Need to contact Wade to see if we can set up a table for free.
 - Jerry has items for display.
- Rotary:
 - Lincoln is working on the letter for the Rotary.
- Community Project Money:
 - No Change: Tim Barr and the organizers are still deciding how they will distribute the MIT funds between the three projects they are working on.
- Donation Projects:
 - Future Donor Contacts:
 - Home Depot:
 - We did not qualify.
 - Walmart:
 - Notification deadline has passed, assume we were not selected.
 - Lowe's – No update.
 - Masons Lodge: Donated \$500 and have invited us for breakfast.
 - Custos Morum Odd Fellows Lodge #42 – Donated \$1,000.
 - Knight of Columbus: They have a meeting in September.
 - Nancy Amatto – The project was presented to Ms. Amato, and she liked it. She is planning on contacting the Lordon's.
 - Rotary – Lincoln is working on a donation request letter.
 - Rymes – Attempted to contact, but they were closed. Will try to coordinate a fund raiser in the fall.
 - Keys and Kaley fund – May be good groups to contact for donations. Jerry and Lincoln working on.
 - Hitchiner –No update.
 - Heritage Commission – Lincoln is liaison.
 - Airmar – A potential company to contact for donation.
 - Rick suggested several options:
 - Traveling breakfast at town churches.
 - Sell shirts
 - Logo – Discussed using an outline of the memorial as the logo, maybe John can help design it.
 - Silent auction.

2. Memorial:

- Alpha Roster:
 - Add Name to Memorial:
 - Robert Ollikainen:
 - Lived in Milford as a child, family moved to Michigan wear he enlisted.
 - Died 10-25-1969
 - Remove name:
 - Doris Fay:
 - Did not live in Milford prior to military service. Hails from Massachusetts.
 - Terrance Lordon was contacted and will help review list. Also knows a person who was in Thailand.
 - Need to identify if Thailand is considered part of the Vietnam War theater of operation. Doug will research.
 - Town website:
 - Doug will send Lincoln an updated Alpha List to post.
- Granite:
 - Tonella Quarry:
 - Has not been delivered to Souhegan St. yet.
 - Will need to coordinate with the town. John Shannon is POC.
- Foundation:
 - Will contact Rick Riendeau when we are ready for this phase.
- Freedom Memorial
 - John is working on.
 - Steel beams from the Permattach building are likely our best option. Will need to coordinate when building is removed.
 - Bank Account:
 - We have a total of \$55 raised for this project.

3. Administrative:

- Need to verify that Brendan Philbrick and Jay Duffy have been removed as committee members and that Rick Mossey and Gene Gregory have been added.
 - No update.
- Heritage Commission and First Congregational Church:
 - The First Congregational Church:
 - The church is still supportive of the project and has given verbal approval. We will repair any damage from the construction process. Parking lot will need to be clear for use on Sunday's, and when weddings and funerals are being conducted.
 - Heritage Commission:
 - Lincoln will contact Mark to set up a meeting.
- Milford Cabinet:
 - The Cabinet's archives may have articles about people going to Vietnam. Rick thought that Bonnie Gondola might be helpful with finding information this way. Will see if this can be coordinated in the September time frame.

- We need a tax-deductible letter to give to donors.
 - Discussed that we should be able to use the towns 501 c3 as our non-profit tax-exempt account.
 - Need to discuss with Lincoln as several members thought that this was discussed early on, and we were not able to use it. Will need to take another look. John Shannon is the town administrator and Tina Philbrick is our POC.
 - Would like to get a list of donors from the town so we know who has already donated
- Rick is planning to travel to NY and visit the 9/11 site, if anyone would like to go they are welcome.

Next Scheduled Meeting: September 15, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. in the Community Development room, and by Zoom.

Motion to adjourn made by Rick, Rodney seconded: Rick, Rodney, Doug, Jerry and Gene agree.

Meeting ended 5: 58 p.m.

Douglas Cave

Vice Chairman/Recorder/VFW Representative