

## **MONUMENTS & CEREMONIES COMMISSION**

### **08<sup>th</sup> March 2016 MEETING MINUTES (draft copy)**

**PRESENT:** Chick Scribner, Phil Kraft, George Walsh, Terry Gaffney, Rollie Holub & Ken Reiss. Also present Sara Zagrodsky from Memorial Day Parade Committee. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 3:33

**MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:** Having been previously distributed and read, one correction noted that Ken Reiss was not to write a thank you note at this point, but to work through the project to its end first. A motion was then made to approve the minutes as amended, seconded and passed unanimously; Terry Gaffney to forward on to Town Clerk.

**MEMORIAL DAY SPEAKER:** Brian O'Malley

**MEMORIAL DAY PARADE COMMITTEE REPORT:** Presented by Sara Zagrodsky, new chairperson for Committee.

**Grand Marshall Choice-** is now part of the MDPC's responsibility; While M&C will continue to forward candidates for consideration, the Commission made it known that we welcome the Parade Committee to be an active participant in the selection process. Brian O'Malley's profile report now in Committee's hands.

**Flyover Request** - Thaddeus Martin- Adjunct General CTNG- answered request that the Dep't of Defense has restricted use of military craft for celebratory fly-overs.

**Pastors-** two pastors to be asked for benediction and closing. Terry to solicit Monsignor at St. Birgitta and Greg Dahl, and to ask Seth about Congregational Church

**S.O.S. Students-** Terry Gaffney to pass contact info for Pam Zago, teacher moderator for S.O.S. (Support Our Soldiers) group to enlist support for Parade set up activities.

**Scout (Boy & Girl) Participation-** SueAnn Schorr and Jen Forlizzi helping; took photo of group and put forward to the paper. Stories planned.

**Coloring Contest Winners-** will also lead the assembly in The Pledge of Allegiance at the Memorial Service at Spring Grove.

**Public Relations-** reaching out to both print and on-line media. May 26<sup>th</sup> will be publish date of Darien Times, so deadline is nlt May 19<sup>th</sup>. Photo op with First Selectman Jayme Stevenson and Committee is penciled in for the 16<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup>

- **Music-** Phil to confirm if Tudor Singers will perform. Same person for sound system

- **Reviewing Stand-** Terry Gaffney to confer with the new P&R Director Pam Gery to confirm; bunting etc. at Phil's office; confirm with Nielsen's Florist we have their consent.

### **CEREMONY INVITATION TO PUBLIC**

Discussion centered around concepts to increase attendance at Memorial Day Ceremony at Veterans Cemetery after the parade. Suggestion made we print additional programs to hand out along parade route.

Discussion as to possibility of using a Bullhorn along parade route and for Darien Men's Association (formerly Senior Men's Association) to carry a banner inviting public.

Suggestion made to Parade Committee Chair to work on story about ceremony in media. Suggested contacting Ed Schmidt for write up on history of parade in town.

**ARTWORK- MURALS-** etc.- First Selectman Jayme Stevenson, recognizing the Town owns many works of art as well as monuments has requested we work on a list of pieces which may have historic and/or artistic value. Terry Gaffney and Ken Reiss to work up list for next month's meeting.

**DARIEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY-** has the murals for the April Show.

**ESSAY CONTEST-** no word back from schools at this point.

No further business raised, meeting adjourned at 4:20.

**NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 3:30

Submitted by Terry Gaffney in Karen Polett's absence.