

## PROPOSED MAY 13, 2020 MINUTES

1. Chairman Pennoyer called the May 13, 2020 regular meeting at 7:03 PM, via ZOOM.

Recreation Department Director Chelsey Dumas-Gibbs served as host for the meeting at her municipal courtroom setting. Those answering as present were: Nancy Hillner, Mary Ellen Madsen, Lou Pazienza, John Fitzgerald, Greg Mancini, Doug Somers, Lee Hardgrove, and Bill Pennoyer along with the town veterans representative Matt McCoy.

2. Pursuant to RIGL, 42-46-6(c), notice of the meeting had been posted on the website of the Secretary of State.

3. Minutes of the November 20, 2019 meeting were approved.

4. The April 27, 2020 finance report was accepted with a showing of \$1,456.51 on hand

5. The agenda item calling for the rental of audio equipment was tabled for the Veterans Day commemorative preparatory meeting.

6. The 2020 proposal for the flagging of Wickford village was approved.

7. Those present were then taken up with a roundtable planning session for the annual Memorial Day commemorative. Karsim Yarn, Director of the R.I. Department of Veterans Affairs was invited to give the position of the state administration surrounding concerns of the size of public gatherings. It was stated that only five individuals are permitted to gather for an event as the upcoming commemorative. If the limit is relaxed the number would be upped to ten.

Discussion then turned to the timing of the different wreath laying ceremonies which are counted among the chief highlights of the town's efforts to honor Memorial Day. VFW Post 152 Commander David Ainslie then entered into the discussion with the suggestion that the wreath laying at the Grand Army of the Republic on the grounds of Elm Grove Cemetery be brought to 9:00 AM and the wreath laying for the World War Memorial at Updike Park be brought to 9:30 AM. 10:00 AM would be the kickoff time for the wreath laying at the Civil War Memorial by the town hall along with the ceremonies at the different war memorials at the nearby Veterans Memorial Park.

8. If the number is to be limited to five, those slated to take part will be: Commander Ainslie to serve as master of ceremonies, Lee Hardgrove to offer prayer, Nancy Hillner to serve as vocalist, Janus Vancans to perform on his bagpipes, and the head of the technology department would air the proceedings for the town's Facebook page. Other participants would be properly distanced from the first group.

If limit is relaxed to ten, adjustments would be made.

Those present then followed the normal practice of parceling out the myriad tasks associated with the wreath laying ceremonies at Elm Grove Cemetery, Updike Park, the town hall, and Veterans Memorial Park.

Chairman Pennoyer indicated that he would be meeting with representatives of the town administration for the purpose of working on the details of the live streaming of the event and to assure that all of the elements of the annual commemoration will conform with state and local guidelines.

9. John Fitzgerald offered Wednesday, October 14 for the next meeting.

10. The meeting adjourned at 8:08 PM.

Nancy Hillner  
secretary

Bill Pennoyer  
chairman

ADDENDA

Final accounting of those who took part in the ZOOM meeting:

Chelsey Dumas-Gibbs, Nancy Hillner, Mary Ellen Madsen, Lou Pazienza, John Fitzgerald, Greg Mancini, Doug Somers, Lee Hardgrove, Bill Pennoyer, David Ainslie, Kasim Yarn, Matthew McCoy, Al Boucher, Tom Spink.