

Tinley Park Veterans Commission  
Minutes of the April 13, 2011 Meeting

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 1951 hrs.

**Present:**

Wiley Roberts – Chairman  
Norm Pestlin –Secretary  
Mike Gibbons –Vice-Chairman  
Matt Heffernan  
Phil Clarke  
Colleen Simon  
Bruce Lorence  
Bill Conner

Dave Montee – Commander, American Legion  
Jerry Styrsky – Commander, VFW Post 2791  
Arlene Morley  
Jack Morley  
Ken Wrezzes  
Thomas Donnelly – Marine Corp League  
Sam English – KWVA  
Donna Gibbons – American Legion Aux

**Excused:** Dave Seaman – Liaison Trustee, Eva Reyes-Seitz – VFW Aux.,

**Absent:** Robert Baisa, Ken Fulton, Bill Hoffman - US Submarine Veterans,

**Corrections/additions to minutes of the last meeting:**

A motion was made seconded and passed to accept the minutes of the last meeting as published.

**Memorial Flag and Citation:**

Donna said she had seen a letter asking when the flag flown for Phillip Darcy would be turned over to the family. She has no idea if the flag was ever received or flown. She will check with Dorothy to see if there's anything in the past minutes about it.

**Publicity and Public Relations:**

Our check to Katherine Ernst, the "Voice of Democracy" essay contest winner, was presented to her at a Village board meeting. The Tinley Junction photographed her with Mayor Zabrocki and Trustee Seaman.

Wiley will check on prices of shirts commission members.

**Discover Tinley:**

Our booth at Discover Tinley was well attended. We collected \$258.00 in yellow ribbon donations and an additional \$250.00 donation from Jim Fuentes.

**Yellow ribbon program:**

Jack reported that we have secured the American Legion as a meeting place on May 21<sup>st</sup> for volunteers to meet in before going out to place yellow ribbons on poles and trees around town. Tentative meeting time is 9am. He is also going to try to set up a pizza and pop thank you party for the volunteers after the ribbon hanging.

Jack proposed selling rolls of ribbons to schools; little leagues etc. at a discounted rate so they in turn could sell them and make a profit.

Wiley mentioned that this date is also Armed Forces day and we are planning on holding a ceremony at the Blue/Gold star memorial. He is planning on contacting the Blue and Gold star families in the area to invite them to the ceremony. Dave Montee offered to have the American Legion provide the Blue and Gold Star flags for the families.

**Memorial Day - 5/30/11:**

The Mayor and trustees still need to be notified, we will ask Trustee Seaman to act as MC and the chaplains from the American Legion and the VFW will serve as Chaplains for the day.

**4<sup>th</sup> of July Activities:**

There is still the possibility of a 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade. If it happens we are still considering having a float for Vietnam vets to ride on.

**9/11 Remembrance:**

Wiley reiterated that first responders, Police and Fire departments, will be featured and will lead the parade.

**Veterans Day – 11/11/11:**

Wiley is still working on having a patriotic concert on 11/11/11 to include local high school bands, Arts Alive band and 'United States Air Force Band of Mid-America'.

**Education in Art in Public Buildings:**

We ordered 6 prints of the Lee Teter painting "Reflections" and 3 frames from Wyman's, they will hold 3 prints for us until next year and frame them then.

**Static Display for Veterans Parkway:**

Dave Montee is still waiting to hear from TAC-COM with what kind of military hardware is available.

There is also the possibility that we can get a decommissioned Sheridan tank from Ft. Sheridan as a static display in addition to piece of equipment we are already working on. Wiley is working with the VFW on this.

**Honor Flight Chicago:**

We are considering an annual donation to support Honor Flight Chicago. Postponed until we see what funds are available.

**Correspondence:**

None

**New Business:**

The annual AVMRA motorcycle run to Manteno will be held in November. The starting point was at Oak Lawn Harley. Since they have closed we are trying to get the starting point moved to Tinley Park. We would like to have pins made up to give to the riders of both this and the Kevin Clarke run.

**REPORT FROM THE V.F.W.:**

Two fish fries left, we have begun serving a fish of the week. Jerry Styrsky has been reelected Commander. Bulldog parade Sunday, Bobcat parade Apr. 30. Mike Sutter scholarship award coming up at Andrew HS.

**REPORT FROM THE V.F.W. AUXILLARY:**

No Report

**REPORT FROM THE AMERICAN LEGION:**

We recently awarded certificates for continuous years of service to 6 people, 1-75 yr, 1-60 yr & 3-50 yr. Little league parade is coming up, May 3<sup>rd</sup> Post elections, May 20 & 21 Poppy Days, June 11<sup>th</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Honor Flight Chicago fund raiser at Bourbon Street, June 26 Post picnic .

**REPORT FROM THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILLARY:**

Donna asked if we would like to have their essay contest winners to read their essays at the Memorial Day ceremony. Wiley asked her to forward him the names of the winners.

**REPORT FROM THE CHICAGO BASE U.S.SUBMARINE VETERANS:**

No Report

**REPORT FROM THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION:**

Our annual Daisy Days fund raiser will be held June 3 & 4, and 10 & 11.

**REPORT FROM THE MARINE CORP LEAGUE:**

No Report – Thanks to everyone that came out to the ceremony at the VFW tonight. We are waiting for an official start date to begin our 'adopt a highway' project on Veterans Parkway.

**Any other business**

May 21<sup>st</sup> is Armed Forces Day. We will have a ceremony at the Blue/Gold Star memorial at 11am. Wiley asked that the posts notify their family support groups.

The meeting was adjourned at 2051 hrs.

The next Commission meeting will be May 11, 2011