

November 1, 2004

Veteran's Memorial Commission

Proceedings by Authority

State of New York,
City of Jamestown, ss:
Mayor's Conference Room

A regular meeting of the Veteran's Memorial Commission of the City of Jamestown, New York was held on Monday, November 1, 2004 at 5:15 p.m.

Members Present: Chairman David W. Shepherd, Evelyn S. Adams, Barclay O. Wellman, Craig W. Young, Russell E. Diethrick, Jr., and Clyde Card

Members Absent: John R. Allen, William J. Servis, Pamela J. Butler

Others Present: City Clerk Shirley A. Sanfilippo

Chairman Shepherd called the meeting to order.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Chairman Shepherd reported that the financial status was unchanged. The balance is about \$42,000.

KIA REPORT

Chairman Shepherd was in touch with the engraving people and they don't print, they only engrave. They recommended Firedancers and he spoke with them about painting the numbers. They will get back to him with a quote.

DATABASE

Chairman Shepherd reviewed the database. He has made some editorial changes on two of the pieces about the memorial and the database telling where the Commission is today regarding the web site, how to make file changes or correct errors. He further commented regarding the written suggestion that Mr. Wellman made a couple of years ago, that they have the vendors and the donors listed. He printed them out and the first page came out nicely; the succeeding pages on the longer list start printing on the border so that has been pointed out and needs to be corrected.

The Commission has decided to amend the language of place of residence to either town or city of residence. They need to get in touch with the Department of Defense and get the official definition of "killed in action" (KIA). They want to remove the gold star. KIA does not need to be in red, they will move it down to the body of the page and it will say "killed in action – yes or no." Medals and honors was listed and there should be a provision for amendments to be made to each of the fields by the veterans or family. The "highest rank achieved" is all right and the links of facts to the main page, etc. should be provided for. He further stated that they will have to have some means for editing and Chairman Shepherd is involved in the discussions with Ms. McEwin.

There was discussion about searching in the "KIA" and they say yes or no, then they can search on the choice of yes or no, but they couldn't search the dates.

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City Clerk Sanfilippo asked if the site could be searched with multiple criteria. Do you have to use one field at a time, or could you put in multiple searches, for example put in WW1, KIA, yes. She stated usually that can be done when you are searching.

Chairman Shepherd will check on the above.

Mr. Wellman asked if they were going to include a statement that they could call the City Clerk's Office and get additional information on a need to know basis. There was further discussion with City Clerk Sanfilippo on emailing the request and whether there should be a charge for obtaining that information.

City Clerk Sanfilippo will check on the fee question. She further suggested some type of application form to obtain a search so as to address the liability issue.

There was discussion concerning identity theft along with the search issue.

City Clerk Sanfilippo discussed the comparison between Vital Statistics records that are available for genealogical purposes and searching for veteran's information. People must be able to meet the criteria conditions in order to perform a search.

Chairman Shepherd will speak to Bill Stroh on the issue.

City Clerk Sanfilippo discussed taking a picture of the memorial and said the best time of the year to do that would be in June so as not to get any shadows.

Mr. Servis stated that in regards to the VFW Park behind the Post Office, there has been a request to have it moved to Hunt Road. He wondered if the Commission wanted to get involved in it because it is a memorial type deal and further stated that the Jamestown Veterans Council is pushing Lake View Cemetery to get a Soldiers' Circle in the new section and wondered if the Commission would want to get involved in that, as well.

Chairman Shepherd explained that the Commission's charge does not include this. Individually, the members could take an interest in it, but not the Commission as a whole.

The Commission discussed Veteran's Park next to the Post Office and the process involved in selling park land in New York State.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Shirley A. Sanfilippo, MMC, RMC
City Clerk