



Veterans Affairs Task Force

Second Meeting April 1, 2021 @ 19:00

Municipal Office Building – Lg. Conference Room & Zoom # 867 4483 3453

Members by Zoom: N/A

Members in Person: Robert Roy, Mary Krumsiek, John Nolan, Stuart Mulhane, Ronald Stacey, E. Bernard Plante, Shelly Gannon, Stephen Marden, Keith Gasco.

Others Attending: Justine Caggiano –Human Resources, Jayne Marie Davolio – Town Clerk

The meeting began at 7:00 pm with the pledge of allegiance.

Due to an exchange of papers the committee started with the wrong agenda item.

The Wagon Wheel update was given by Jayne Marie Davolio, the wheels should be shipped within the next two weeks and then we will need to have them moved from the Asa Waters Mansion to be painted and affixed to the cannon. So when they are on the way, we can put our action plan together. Discussion took place of also painting the cannon, when the wheels were done. The committee will check the cannon and advise if it is needed.

After the update and realizing that this was the incorrect agenda, the committee moved on to the correct agenda and approved the correct set of minutes for March 4, 2021. This was taken on a roll call vote by all members. All members approved the minutes.

The committee then moved onto item agenda # 4 with update and discussion on the grant application with Justine Caggiano. Justine reported that she is $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way done with the grant and should be submitting the grant by next Wednesday or Thursday. She has received community support letters from the Historical Society and the Asa Waters Director Kristen Livoti. The town manager will also be writing a letter for the financial background of the committee for the grant. At this point in the discussion Justine had a few questions to clarify for the application.

1. How is the task force going to maintain the restoration after it is complete? Stuart Mulhane spoke first about the cleaning of the monuments and that we need to use soft clothes and soft cleaning materials no abrasives. Along with Stuart, John Nolan and Stephen Marden suggested, usually twice a year after the harsh winters and before the fall and then also to buff up and shine for the Memorial Day and Veterans day events. John Nolan also brought up the fact of including the boy scouts and having each veteran cleaning the monuments with a boy scout to explain the plaques and monuments and have them help with the project.
2. Also, the monument at the end of Bicentennial way, what is the task force doing about this? Chairman Roy stated that the discussion will be brought up in the next few agenda items.

Chairman Roy at this point went to Agenda item #5 asked Mary Krumsiek for an update from Sutton on the project that they did with their grave stones. Mary spoke with Jim Smith, Sutton town manager and he referred her to the Historical Society and Mary is waiting for information back from them.

Chairman Roy then went into discussion on Agenda Item #3 and #5 with Stuart Mulhane. Chairman Roy spoke about the discussion that he and Stuart had with Laurie Connors and the architect on the downtown project. The Cannon and monuments may be moved back from where they are but it will not be detrimental to the set up now. Stuart Mulhane spoke about the monument and the 3 plaques. World War I monument, WWII, Korea & Vietnam plaques. There was discussion on the names on the plaque of WWI and how we could update the plaques with names, but not sure if Boston would have the information. Also, the wording on the plaques is only in Memoriam. Discussion took place on placing these for further investigation on how we can do more justice to the veterans of these conflicts. (Pictures attached)

Stuart then spoke about restoring the memorial and plaques. He contacted a restoration company and got a quote. The quote includes cleaning the granite memorial, clean all 4 bronze plaques to the bare metal, refinishing with government bronze color and buff the letters and eagle to original color and seal coating the plaques with 5 layers of lacquer. The cost of this project is \$5,725.00 dollars and it would be finished for Memorial Day. Discussion took place over the amount of money and if the task force would be able to do this. With the money in the account now which is \$17,500.00 and the \$5000.00 that will be

placed in the budget if approved, moves the account to \$22,500.00. Now bringing into play the grant project which total cost is \$9,900.00 and the grant application if approved would pay 4500.00 toward the project. That would leave \$5,400 that needs to come from the account which leaves \$17,100.00. If we add the project for the restoration of the Bicentennial way which is \$5,725.00 that leaves 11,375.00 in the account. This does not account for paint for the wheels or the cannon. If all goes according to plan, there should be enough money.

The scenario if the grant does not get approved or the \$5,000.00 in the budget for town meeting does not get approved. There is \$17,500.00 in the account now, if we deduct the projects for the restoration of the 30 monuments and Bicentennial way which is a total of \$15,625.00 dollars that will leave \$1,875.00 in the account not accounting for the paint for the wheels or the cannon.

Stuart than asked if we do go forward with the Bicentennial way project, they will need to get paid at the end of the project. The project will be done before June 30, 2021 so the company would need to be paid in this fiscal year from the account as it is now.

Mr. Stacey asked to speak on a letter he proposed to the task force to reach out to our legal representative and change the law. This letter is about receiving approval from the family members of the fallen to restore headstones and markers and the legal liability that falls on the town and the council. Discussion took place on the letter and how records were lost in a fire in Chicago and that some of the DD214 forms were lost and a new DD215 form has been created to help out with the missing information. The task force tabled this letter to be taken under advisement.

Discussion was brought back to the restoration project of Bicentennial way and a motion was made by Keith Gasco to move forward with the quote and company to complete the restoration project at Bicentennial way, this was 2nd by Mary Krumsiek and a roll call vote was taken and all members were in favor.

One question was asked by Mary Krumsiek to E. Bernard Plante about the Veterans Council and if the town has ever gotten involved with the monuments and up keep of those monuments. Mr. Plante replied no, not that he knows of has the town ever gotten involved.

Discussion than took place on how the Veterans council bought the two new monuments at Bellville Lane and the corner of Millbury Ave and Howe Ave. That the Federal government will produce the flat markers for the cemeteries and that the Governor will replace a damaged flat marker with pictures and a written statement of how it the marker was damaged at no cost.

Chairman Roy asked for any other comments on any items, with non being heard he asked to set the next meeting for May 6, 2021 @ 19:00 in the large conference room. Roll call vote taken and all were in favor.

Motion to close the meeting made by Mary Krumsiek and seconded by E. Bernard Plante, all in favor and roll call vote taken.

Meeting closed @ 7:40 PM

Robert Roy, Chairperson:

Mary Krumsiek, Vice Chairperson:

John Nolan, Clerk

Stuart Mulhane

Shelly Gannon

Ronald Stacey

E. Bernard Plante

Stephen Marden

Keith Gasco

The image shows handwritten signatures of the board members on lined paper. The signatures are as follows: Robert Roy, Mary Krumsiek, John Nolan, Stuart D. Mulhane, Ronald Stacey, E. Bernard Plante, Stephen Marden, and Keith Gasco.

Rex Monuments Worcester, Inc.

120 Webster St. Worcester MA 01603
(508) 755-4035

March 30, 2021

Town of Millbury
Mr. Stuart Mulhane

RE: World War I Memorial

In response to your request for a quote to restore the war memorial,
my suggestion would be the following:

1. Clean the granite memorial.
2. Clean all 4 bronze plaques to the bare metal.
3. Refinish with government bronze color, and buff the letters and eagle to original color.
4. Seal coat the plaques with 5 layers of lacquer.

The cost would be \$5725.00 and would be completed for Memorial Day.

If you have questions please call at your convenience.

Thank you,

Lisa Lynch
Rex Monuments Worcester, Inc.
120 Webster Street
Worcester MA 01603