



Veterans Advisory Committee

Meeting Agenda/**Minutes**

February 24, 2025

In Attendance	Committee Member	In Attendance	Committee Member
X	Gordon Bell, USCG		Daniel Littlely, USAF
X	William Dauphinee USMC	X	Rich Marino USMC
X	Robert Dell, USCG	X	Joe Meehan, USN
	Barry Forgeng, USMC	X	Chet Ruminski, USN
X	Barry Kenyon, USN		Laureen Sendel-Grant, USA
	Carter LeBrocq, USA		Stacy Spizziri, USA
	Michael Lewis, USAF	X	Joyce Snyder, BOS Liaison

Summary

The meeting focused on upcoming veterans' events, cemetery restoration projects, and the ongoing access issues of Veterans Memorial Park. Key discussions included planning for the Veterans Social Event, grant applications for cemetery restoration, and strategies to resolve access issues for Veterans Memorial Park. Additional topics covered the May Towamencin Day event, establishing a recurring veterans' breakfast, and forming a subcommittee for the 250th-anniversary celebration of Washington's Towamencin Encampment.

Meeting Topics

February meeting minutes approved.

1. Veterans Social Event (April 2025)

Details:

- A March event is not feasible due to venue availability; April 6th is the new target date.
- Venue options: Firehouse (pending approval, may require donation) or Legion Hall as a backup.
- Event is free for veterans and their families; flyer updates needed.
- Food to be possibly sourced from Towamencin businesses Chick-fil-A, ShopRite, WaWa.

Takeaways:

- Awaiting firehouse confirmation April 6th date.
- Need to finalize flyer design as reviewed during meeting.
- Sponsorships for food and beverages require confirmation.

2. Tennis-Lukens Cemetery Restoration

Details:

- Grant application in progress under the American 250 program (50/50 match required).
- Scope: cemetery signage, headstone restoration, and landscaping.
- Tennis-Lukens cemetery restoration efforts continue, but legal ownership remains an issue for Methodist Episcopal behind the Holiday Inn.

Takeaways:

- Grant status to be monitored.
- Clarification required on ownership concerns for Methodist Episcopal.

3. Veterans Memorial Park Development

Details:

- The project is delayed due to lack of easement access, VMP is boxed in.
- Possible solutions include land condemnation or negotiating another entrance.
- Plan to invite developer Mark Nicoletti (PSDC) to Veterans Committee Meeting to discuss options.

Takeaways:

- Engineering planning cannot proceed until access is secured.
- Developer PSDC invitation to be sent for the next meeting.
- Board of Supervisors to be informed of PSDC meeting initiative.

4. May 10th Towamencin Day Event

Details:

- Event will follow last year's structure.
- Preparation checklist to be circulated.
- Tables, chairs, and logistics need final confirmation.

Takeaways:

- Supplies and reservations must be finalized.
- Task assignments needed for volunteers. Veterans' Committee members to confirm their participation.

5. Veterans Breakfast Gathering Proposal

Details:

- Idea to establish a recurring informal breakfast for veterans.
- Open to area veterans, not just committee members.
- Possible locations: Heritage Restaurant as they can easily accommodate large groups.

Takeaways:

- A location needs to be selected and confirmed.
- Initial gathering to be scheduled and advertised.

6. 250th Anniversary of Washington's Encampment (2027)

Details:

- Proposal to form a subcommittee dedicated to event planning.
- Ideas include student reenactment regiments and Revolutionary War reenactors.
- Collaboration with local schools and historical groups.

Takeaways:

- A subcommittee needs to be established at the next meeting.
- Research required on reenactment groups and school participation.

Action Items Summary

1. **Veterans Social Event:** Confirm venue, finalize flyer, and secure food sponsorships.
2. **Tennis Lukens Cemetery:** Monitor grant application and clarify ownership issues.
3. **Veterans Memorial Park:** Invite developer Mark Nicoletti and update Board of Supervisors.
4. **Towamencin Day Event:** Schedule committee members and confirm logistics.
5. **Veterans Breakfast Gathering:** Choose location and schedule the first meeting.
6. **250th Anniversary of Washington's Encampment Planning:** Form subcommittee and begin outreach for reenactors and school involvement.

Next Meeting Date: March 24, 2024 7:00 PM

Minutes prepared by: Chet Ruminski

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1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. ROLL CALL

3. OPENING COMMENTS

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Meeting of January 27, 2025

6. OLD BUSINESS

Planning for Future Events for Veterans

- Veterans Social for spring 2025
- Towamencin Day 2025 – May 10, 2025

Update on Status of Work to be performed at Tennis-Lukens Cemetery

- Cemetery Sign

- Headstone Restoration
- Landscaping

Engineering Plans for Veterans Memorial Park Development

- Initiate proposals for engineering plans

An article for the Spring 2025 newsletter - Completed and Submitted

Future Township Celebrations

- Recommend a volunteer committee be started for major anniversary celebrations

7. NEW BUSINESS

8. NEXT VETERANS COMMITTEE MEETING – March 24, 2025