

TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE
TRUSTEES OF SOLDIERS' MEMORIALS MEETING
NORTHBRIDGE TOWN HALL

Wednesday, November 1, 2017 - 7:00PM

MINUTES

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NORTHBRIDGE TOWN CLERK
DOREEN A. CEDRONE

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dan Beneway, Frank DeFazio, Tom Farley, Jim Gallagher, Dick Trier and Town Selectmen Chair, Charlie Ampagoomian.

GUESTS: Phil Cyr, American Legion, Jim Shuris and Jamie Luchini (DPW)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the October 10, 2017 meeting were unanimously approved (Gallagher/Ampagoomian).

I. DISCUSSION ITEMS AND PROGRESS REPORTS

A. ROCKDALE WWI MEMORIAL PROGRESS

- Dan Beneway introduced Jim Shuris and Jamie Luchini from the Northbridge DPW who had inspected the WWI monument and had some serious concerns about the way the job was completed. Jim Shuris said he would type up a "punch list that we would need to address with DiBara Enterprises. The list was subsequently sent to the trustees and is attached:

When comparing the completed work to the original structures pictures/details and based on the revised specifications to eliminate substitute the 6-inch thick granite pavers with 2-inch pavers and to eliminate the concrete pad and replace with compacted stone dust materials it was "visually" observed that:

- 1. Several of the 2-inch thick granite pavers uneven/non-linear with uneven sand joints and some of the pavers moved "rocked back and forth" when walked on. The sand joint widths vary greatly under some of the granite bottom rails.*
- 2. The perimeter band around the monument deck is not 6-inch thickness as shown on specification document.*
- 3. The entrance paver slate at the front right entrance is uneven (tilted up at each end).*
- 4. Rail attachment joints at each granite pier are non-uniform, "joint widths are excessive and packed in a random manner". The underside of many of the joint attachments are void with visible backer-rod material. The workmanship observed appears non-consistent and the joints were "packed" with mortar material and not cut straight (i.e. sloppy with spillage onto adjacent members). The same applies to the mortared joints at the granite pier bases.*

- 5. The reveal at the rear top of the monuments varies in dimension from one end to the other.*
- 6. Some of the vertical granite piers appear out-of-line in both vertical planes.*
- 7. The mortared lintel above the plaque does not have a support to prevent failure/cracking. The original structure pictures depicts no mortared lintel?*
- 8. The plaque attachment to the granite face is not fastened properly (i.e. gaps and wiggles).*
- 9. The seeded areas at the rear of the monument was not protected from slope erosion and was washed out with the recent rain event.*
- 10. The caulking applied around the perimeter of the granite face does not match the character of the monument (i.e. color, texture, etc.).*

- After discussing these concerns, the trustees realized that we needed to meet with Matt and Mike DiBara to get things resolved.
- **ACTION:** The motion was made and seconded (Trier/DeFazio) that the trustees should hold back a minimum of \$20,000 until these issues were resolved.
- The trustees agreed to set up a meeting with DiBara on Saturday, November 4, 2017 at the WWI Rockdale site. Jim Shuris agreed to attend and Dan Beneway called to confirm that Matt and Mike DiBara would be able to join us at that time.

B. FINANCE REPORT

- Jim Gallagher shared his current financial report noting that we have an outstanding bill for the addition of engraving on the Vietnam Memorial and noted that the final payments to DiBara were on hold pending our upcoming meeting at the memorial.

C. WW1 ROCKDALE DEDICATION

- Phil Cyr reported that he has sent letters to all American Legion members notifying them of the rededication and asking for color guard and rifle volunteers. He committed to the trustees that both of these groups will stand ready at 10:30 on Saturday 11/11/17.
- Dick Trier reminded the trustees about our interview and photo-op. scheduled for 3:30PM at the Rockdale WWI Memorial with Susan Spencer from the Telegram and Gazette.
- Dick Trier agreed to contact Ted Kozak and invite him to the re-dedication. He also noted that he would list all of the families of soldiers listed on the WWI who had responded to our news article and forward this to Charlie for inclusion in the program.
- Tom Farley reported that he had talked to Father Tom at St. Peters who was happy to help us with the invocation, parking at the church and allowing us to use the church hall for our reception. Dick and Tom would plan on visiting the reception area at the church.
- Charlie Ampagoomian reviewed his preliminary notes that he would be using as the emcee for the event. He had reached out to Michael Moore's office to invite him to the event.

D. OTHER PROJECT UPDATES

- Jamie Luchini noted that Dan Beneway asked him about updating the lighting on the WWII/Korean Monument and that he would research what could be available.

E. COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

- Dan Beneway noted that he had received information about SHRAB (State Historical Records Advisory Board) Grants and that he asked Dick Trier to look into the program

II. OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. NEXT MEETING

- Tuesday, November 7, 2017, 7:00PM at the Town Hall
- Agenda Items:
 - WWI Rockdale Project Completion
 - Rockdale Dedication Plans

C. ADJOURNMENT: 8:32PM

Respectfully submitted,

Richard T. Trier

Richard T. Trier, Secretary

Approved: *11/7/17*

