MINUTES
Hamilton Veterans Committee
Tuesday, May 11, 2010
10:00 a.m.
Hamilton City Centre, Suite 305

CHAIR: John Clarke
MINUTE TAKER: Rebecca Oliphant

PRESENT: Art Tompkins, John Clarke, Harry McEwen, Councillor Merulla, Councillor Bratina (10:40 left for City business), Councillor Morelli

REGRETS: Gerry Rattray, Tom Dean, Fern Viola, Lloyd Shepherd

GUESTS:

CHAIR’S REMARKS –

1. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA
   That the May agenda of the Hamilton Veterans Committee be approved.
   (Tompkins/Merulla) CARRIED

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST
   None declared.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 13 April 2010
   That the April minutes of the Hamilton Veterans Committee be approved.
   (Tompkins/McEwen) CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

   4.1 Nevada Tickets
   Update: President and Secretaries Association discussion re: setting up a separate Veterans association, much the same as the Firefighters or Police
   Tabled until Gerry returns

   4.2 Role & Function of Hamilton Veterans Committee
   Senior Project Manager will report to this committee by September 2010 on the completed research into Best Practices for municipal Veterans Committees.

   4.3 Mechanized Equipment at Veterans Events
   Councillor Bratina will arrange a meeting with his contacts and this Committee
Update: Gerry to report on results of trip to Brantford Museum

4.4 Artillery pieces in Dundurn Park and at the Delta
The City has received an offer from museum out west that would restore the two pieces in storage and put them on display, report will come to this committee for review / comment first

4.5 Mark Anthony Graham Memorial Olympic Park
ACTION: HVC to investigate the City donating the bench and regiment can provide plaque

Motion that the City of Hamilton donate the memorial bench to be placed in Mark Anthony Graham Memorial Olympic Park.

(Tompkins/McEwen) CARRIED

ACTION: Colleen Wicken, Councillor Whitehead’s Admin, to provide confirmed dates to HVC, who will in turn forward to various veterans organizations

4.6 Decoration Day Planning
Review of final program.

4.7 Missing Wreaths
Marie was to check if 58th Legion, Korea Veterans and United Council wreaths are at Barton Street, Marie is out of the office today, Rebecca will bring it to her attention

4.8 Parking in Stoney Creek
Members of the Stoney Creek Legion met with Mary Long from District Labour Council in an effort to get new parking rules rescinded, suggested that this wasn’t appropriate as it has been passed
look into other alternatives
Grants program – if we provide to one that is in financial distress, opens to more requests,
Downsize - sell property, will the membership move to another location, perhaps there is a facility nearby with parking that could accommodate them, Council recognizes challenges with parking, perhaps planning could help to find a location, perhaps lease rather than purchase,
Ask for a scan of what other communities are doing as this is a problem across the country
SC Legion has looked at what is the minimum they could survive with, two spots is not enough
Action: Councillor Merulla to speak to Mary and Councillor Clark (Ward Councillor) to set up meeting, want to have a pre-meeting before they come to Veterans Committee

4.9 Veterans Memorial Highway
would like to see it named “Veterans Way of Remembrance”, would like it to be James Street as that is where the troops left from, will christen the street when it is renamed
**Action:** Councillor Bratina to investigate renaming James Street from the mountain to the Bay

**Motion** that City Council be asked to name James Street North and South from the Mountain to the Bay “Veterans Way of Remembrance”.

(Clarke/McEwen) CARRIED

5. **NEW BUSINESS**

Councillor Morelli asked it be noted that anything related to Veterans should be brought to this table and then HVC can comment in an effort to determine if the City has a role to play.

5.1 **Annual Presentation to Emergency & Community Services Committee**

Wednesday, September 8, 2010 – 1:30 p.m.

Staff will update 2009 presentation – final HVC approved presentation needs to be complete by August 16.

Presenter:
Tabled until June meeting.

5.2 **Upcoming Events**

5.3 **Wearing of Decorations / Medals**

Discussion – it is part of the Criminal Code, that persons wearing medals that they are not entitled to could go to jail, a private members bill was introduced asking that family members be allowed to wear deceased Veterans medals on ceremonial occasions, the Legions were not in favour so it did not get moved forward

Should this be allowed on Remembrance Day? Committee has strong feelings on both sides of the issue

**Motion** that public consultations be held to determine the feelings of Hamilton Veterans regarding the issue of family members being allowed to wear deceased Veterans medals on ceremonial occasions.

(Tompkins/McEwen) CARRIED

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Next Meeting: 08 June 2010
10:00 a.m. to Noon
City Centre, Suite 305 Boardroom
Significant Veterans Anniversaries (Please provide any additions you may be aware of to this list.)

2010  - 100th anniversary of the Navy, an event June 6 at the Haida, Department of Veterans Affairs Week theme is the Navy and will be at the HMCS Star
- 65th anniversary of VE Day,
- 65th anniversary of the Liberation of Holland
- 65th anniversary of VJ Day
- 60th anniversary of commencement of the Korean War

2011  - formal end of Canadian combat

2012  - RHLI, Dieppe, Queen’s 60th Jubilee

2013  - 200th Anniversary of the Battle of Stoney Creek,

2014  - 100th anniversary of the beginning of WWI
- 70th of D Day

2015  -