CHAIR’S REMARKS

The Chair would like to welcome Anna Bradford, Director of Culture Division for the City of Hamilton, to the meeting. Through the Chair, Anna would like to make the following announcement:

As of this meeting, July 29, I (Anna Bradford) will be the City of Hamilton staff liaison to the Hamilton Veterans Committee. There are a number of issues and topics that have begun and continue to come to the forefront, regarding Veterans throughout the City of Hamilton, and it is imperative that these be handled appropriately and brought to the attention of Hamilton City Council when necessary. Marie (MacEachern) will continue to work with the Hamilton Veterans Committee on all Veterans-related events and will attend the appropriate meetings to ensure that the coordination of these events continues in a seamless manner. However, all other issues, questions, concerns, etc. are to be directed to my office.

Anna’s contact info is as follows:

Anna Bradford, Director  
Culture Division, Community Services Department  
City of Hamilton  
77 James Street North, Suite 305  
L8R 2K3  
(905) 546-2424 x.3967  
Anna.Bradford@hamilton.ca
Item to be added under New Business; Red Friday’s, Item 5.3
That the July agenda of the Hamilton Veterans Committee be approved.
(1)

APPROVED

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST
None

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 20, 2009
Tom Dean has requested that the minutes be amended to reflect his regrets.
That the May minutes of the Hamilton Veterans Committee be approved as amended.
(Dean/Clarke) APPROVED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

4.1.1. Dieppe Day
• Chairs have been arranged
• Special Event application has been processed
• Parks staff has been notified, requested to clean park/replace flags if necessary
• RHLI will hold reception following event
• Inquiry about transportation for Veterans to Park – Gerry not present to provide update

4.1.2. East End Decoration Day
• Host organization is Navy Club; buses will depart at 12:30pm
• Clergy – Rev. Howard Gorle
• Payment to George Arnone (band) for $300 (for performances in 2008 & 2009) to be made immediately
• Bill Eisan will arrange First Aid & Police
• Chairs and buses have been arranged
• Special Event application is in process

Note: Anna to look into why there was no Saluting Officer, Clergy or Council representation at June Decoration Day, will report at next meeting.

4.2. Nevada Tickets
Update: Direction from Committee that staff follow up on Item 4.3 of the May minutes and report at next meeting

-- From May 20, 2009 Hamilton Veterans Committee Minutes --

4.3 Nevada Tickets
Gerry Rattray questioning why Veterans organizations cannot keep more of the earnings generated from the sale of Nevada lottery tickets. This topic requires discussion, Q&A with Ontario Lottery and Gaming Commission and potentially Hamilton Licensing Department re: Lottery License.
Search out Best Practices in place by other organizations.

4.3. Veterans Parking
Update: The Hamilton Veterans Committee would like to make the following recommendations to Hamilton City Council, regarding Veterans Parking in the City of Hamilton

1. That the Hamilton Veterans Committee be consulted with on all matters pertaining to Veterans issues in the City of Hamilton

2. That any Canadian or Allied Member of the Armed Forces, who have, or are serving, and who are also current residents of the City of Hamilton, be eligible for free parking in municipally operated parking lots and meters.

3. That the Veteran must be in the vehicle at the time of use. If not, the user is subject to fine.

4. That upon the death of the Veteran, the permit must be returned to the issuing organization.

4.4. Snow Removal at Legion Hall
Jerry to provide Marie with letter from the Mayor, and correspondence from Scott Stewart (both from 2008) – once received Marie will follow up.
Update: Deferred to next meeting, staff will report on findings.

4.5. Gore Park Planning Committee
Marie to inquire with LeAnne Sealey regarding the start of construction
Update:
- Construction timelines are still to be determined
- Jack McFarland has distributed information pertaining to Gore Park/Veterans Place proposal; information includes proposed park layout and data-seeking questions.
- Jack has proposed a separate lunch meeting to discuss the entire proposal

Staff will setup meeting, inform Committee of date/time/location
Meeting must take place prior to Public Forum, which takes place on September 9, 2009.

Note: Re: Legibility of text on Cenotaph
-- From March 25, 2009 Hamilton Veterans Committee Minutes --

4.3 Cenotaph – Gore Park
Re: Making the letters and numbers darker on the cenotaph stone
Follow-up from Therese Charbonneau, Senior Conservator: Monument is cut stone; therefore, the letters cannot be made any darker. This could only be done if it was inlaid stone, at which point a lead wax could be used for lining of the letters and numbers.

4.6. Hamilton Spectator Article Re: Veterans Parking
Concern regarding Hamilton Spectator article indicating the Veterans Committee had agreed with the parking recommendations when it did not. Chair Jack McFarland is willing to do a presentation to Council if necessary.  
**Update:** Article has been submitted to staff for photocopy, staff will distribute article at next meeting

4.7. **Councillors on Veterans Committee**
Recommendation to look into having two Councillors on the committee; role will include attending meeting and events. In addition to continuing to work with Councillor Morelli as Council representation on the Veterans Committee, the members of the committee have indicated would like to keep Councillor Morelli and ask if there is interest from Councillor Bratina or Councillor Mitchell.  
**Update:** Anna will contact the City Clerk’s office for guidance on how to pursue this request.

5. **New Business**
   5.1. **Role & Function of Hamilton Veterans Committee**
Anna has requested permission to research Best Practices within other municipalities regarding Veterans Committees, with the goal of potentially creating a new or revising the current mandate of the Hamilton Veterans Committee.  
With the permission of the Committee, Anna will report the findings of her research to the Committee at the next meeting if the work can be accomplished by that date.

5.2. **Veterans Appreciation Day**
An outside organization is requesting the use of Dieppe Park for the purposes of a Veterans Appreciation Day. This event will be less of a remembrance ceremony and more of a celebration. This event will have no financial or preparative impact on the Hamilton Veterans Committee at all, as the organizing group will be looking after all aspects of this event.

The Hamilton Veterans Committee approves the use of Dieppe Park for this event. Committee members have sited several potential logistics issues and would like further information for review; staff to mail additional information.

5.3. **Red Friday’s**
Anna has been asked to prepare a report to Council on Red Friday’s, however she would like the input of the Veterans Committee prior to writing the report.  
Anna will bring the draft report to the next meeting, to receive input from the Committee. She is currently trying to meet with the CO’s of the local regiments for their input.

5.4. **Remembrance Day**
**Discussion**
→ Consideration for foregoing Fall In for elderly Veterans at City Centre, instruct those who do not wish to march, to meet at Cenotaph
→ Request for Budget update

6. **Adjournment**
The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 PM
Next Meeting: September 16, 2009 – 5:00pm
Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 58