

Seekonk Veterans			
10.2.2025		7:00pm	Senior Center Cafe
Meeting called by	Kevin Kugel		
Type of meeting	Seekonk Veterans Council Meeting, Audio #065		
Chairman	Kevin Kugel		
Audio/Transcriber	James LaFlame		
Attendees	Committee Members: Kevin Kugel (Chair), William Curtis (Vice Chair), Moises Moniz, Russ Pion, Joseph Raez & Matt Pezzullo Other: James LaFlame (VSO) Absent: Adam Tumlinson (excused)		
Meeting Minutes			
Discussion	Meeting minutes for June 25, 2025 approved.		
Action Items	Send to Town Clerk and post on town website		
Deadline	ASAP		
Agenda Topic			
	VSO Updates		

VSO/Chair Updates	
Discussion	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Jim informed everyone that he will be away from Sunday October 19th to Wednesday October 22nd at the Executive Office of Veterans Services (EOVS) Training Conference in Leominster.2. The conference usually runs through Thursday, but was cut a day short this year.3. Navy Band Northeast's (Newport) Crosswinds Woodwind Quintet will provide music for the Veterans Day Luncheon at the Senior Center on Wednesday, November 5th.4. On Monday, November 10th, Jim will be hosting Seekonk Veterans Coffee Hour at the senior center (2pm start time).5. Steve Croteau, from the state's Bonus Division, will be attending. He will have his laptop with him, so he can check to see if anyone is owed any money.6. He also plans on having someone from VA Healthcare attend.7. Kevin and Jim were interviewed by Joe Siegel for a Seekonk Reporter article about the Veterans Council. They discussed all of the events the council covers, to include Memorial and Veterans Day events, Holiday Festival, National Night Out, Celebrate Seekonk, the 9-11 ceremony, Seekonk Veterans Coffee Hour and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

Agenda Topic			
Old Business	Veterans Day Rolling Parade and Ceremony		
Discussion	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Joe created flyers for the Veterans Day events. There are two versions, one has a QR code that directs them to RSVP to the rolling parade by calling or emailing the VSO. Joe will be able to see the contact information for all those responding.2. Jim reported that Rick Levesque is expecting 2-4 vehicles from the Southeast Chapter of the Massachusetts Military Vehicle Collector's Club to participate in the rolling parade. He will have a better idea of the exact number as we get closer to the event.3. Joe spoke with Fire Chief Whalen at the 9-11 ceremony. Chief said that the SFD would support the rolling parade in whatever capacity we need.4. Kevin will draft up a letter to formally invite the Seekonk Police and Fire Departments to our Veterans Day events.5. Jim listed the ceremony invitees that have confirmed participation at this time; Senator Dooner, Representative Howitt, Chaplain Amaral and our resident poet Margie Rieske.		

Agenda Topic		
Old Business	Veterans Day Rolling Parade and Ceremony (continued)	
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">6. Congressman Auchincloss’s scheduler responded to Jim’s request, but there is no decision at this time.7. The 215th Army Band is not available to provide music for the ceremony as they are slated to be at events at the State House and in Framingham.8. Jim will check to see if there is a small group available from the Seekonk High School band. If not, he does have a lead on a local band that might be able to help.9. Joe has a lead on an anthem singer (Kate Terrien) that might be available.10. Russ will coordinate at date & time for taking down the KIA banners along Newman Avenue. The date will depend on the weather.11. Joe reported that the Veterans Council’s entry for Scarecrow Fest will include a laminated sign advertising the rolling parade.	

Agenda Topic	
Old Business	Holiday Festival
Discussion	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Kevin would like to have the sponsor's signs preprinted this year, instead of them writing their dedications with a marker.2. If printed signs are not feasible this year, there are plenty of the old signs available.3. Bill will confirm Santa's participation and secure his chair from his church.4. Kevin will reach out to Young's Catering regarding hot chocolate for the tree lighting ceremony.5. Kevin mentioned how there were several violations despite sponsors signing the list of rules for Holiday Festival. Noted violations were not taking down their decorations, putting up extra lights and decorating trees that were not assigned to them.6. The details for the tree lighting ceremony will be worked out after Veterans Day.
Topic	Adjournment
Motion made by Bill to adjourn, seconded by Joe and voted unanimously	