

Seekonk Veterans' Council		
10.19.2023	7:00pm	Senior Center Cafe
Meeting called by	Bill Curtis	
Type of meeting	Seekonk Veterans Council Meeting, Audio #049	
Chairman	Bill Curtis (Vice Chair)	
Audio/Transcriber	James LaFlame	
Attendees	Committee Members: Bill Curtis (Vice Chair), Moises Moniz, Russell Pion, Adam Tumlinson, LaNon Neary & Joseph Raez Other: James LaFlame (VSO) Absent: Kevin Kugel (excused)	
Meeting Minutes		
Discussion	Meeting minutes for September 21st, 2023 approved.	
Action Items	Send to Town Clerk and posted on town website	
Deadline	ASAP	
Agenda Topic		
	VSO Updates	

VSO/Chair Updates	
Discussion	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Jim will be headed to Leominster on Sunday for the EOVS Conference with almost all of the VSOs in the commonwealth (Oct 22nd-26th). Text will be the best way to reach him (he will have some email access).2. Wednesday, Nov 8th at 11:30am is the Veterans Day Luncheon at the senior center. Navy Band Northeast's Woodwind Quintet is confirmed. They suggested they would play <i>Happy Birthday</i> for Bill Soule, as well as a Debussy piece as a tribute to his service in France during WWII.3. Doc Rubel will be driving Bill Soule to the luncheon. Jim has American flag pins for all veterans attending the luncheon. Veterans eat free, but have to R.S.V.P.4. Angel's Care Closets (Briarwood Plaza) is holding an event for veterans on Saturday Nov 4 from 12pm-2pm. They will be giving away supplies, toiletries and Seekonk trash bags.5. Jim will check with Melissa Miller from Angel's Care to see if she wants the 10 cases of sanitizer at Bill's house that was previously donated to the council.

Agenda Topic	
Old Business	Veterans Day
Discussion	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Jim doubled down on the Town Crier/Seekonk Reporter articles for the Veterans Day events (as well as the Leaf Rake and Holiday Festival. The Town Clerk also included our Veterans Day events as part of her monthly column.2. Jim will send out emails to all of the past rolling parade participants to maximize cars and motorcycles.3. Jim will send a request to Chief Enos to have someone from the police department at our next meeting. It should be easy as the parade route is the same as last year's.4. The Veterans Council will arrive at Briarwood at 8:30am, parade participants are getting there for 9am, form at 9:30am and rolling out at 10am. The ceremony starts at 11am.5. Other than Rep. Howitt (who is confirmed), still waiting to hear yea or nay from all other politicians.6. Adam confirmed that E.J. McQuade will attend and will speak (briefly).

Agenda Topic	
Old Business	Veterans Day (continued)
Discussion	<ol style="list-style-type: none">7. Chaplain Amaral is a go (for the parade and ceremony).8. There are two confirmed small groups that are confirmed from the 215th Army Band to perform at the ceremony, both of whom have done our ceremonies in the past (their fife & drum and small woodwind group).9. Rick Levesque from the military vehicles collector's club has confirmed that he will have a WWII jeep for the Grand Marshal.10. The antique fire truck is confirmed. Adam will get candy. It is believed that Kevin has the veterans council signage for the fire truck.11. Margie Rieske's poem, <i>The Old Veteran</i>, will be perfect for the occasion. The poem is about a WWII veteran, whose wife is no longer alive. The only difference is that the veteran in the poem has a granddaughter. Mr. Soule has a great granddaughter. So, Margie will change that and sign and frame the poem to be presented to Mr. Soule.

Agenda Topic	
Old Business	Holiday Festival
Discussion	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. There are just 15 trees left to sell.2. Bill reported that the prices of the supplier's trees went up to \$40. He tried other supplies, but had no luck. The council agreed to keep our price at \$50.3. We talked again about having the sponsors string the lights we provide for them. Instructions, as they do at Slater Park, is a good option as there was concern among council members that the sponsors string them correctly.4. POW tree decorations was discussed. The small POW flags only lasted one season. Jim will check with Flags Plus to see if there is something that could be special ordered. Black and white ribbons was mentioned as an option.5. LaNon confirmed that Santa would be there for the tree lighting (free of charge).6. Tree lighting will take place on Saturday, December 9th, 3:30 for pictures with Santa, 4:30 for the lights.7. Adam confirmed Katie's Kookies for the event, LaNon will check with Young's Catering for hot chocolate.
Topic	Adjournment
Motion made by Russ to adjourn, seconded by Joe and voted unanimously	