

Seekonk Veterans		
10.23.2025	7:00pm	Senior Center Cafe
Meeting called by	Kevin Kugel	
Type of meeting	Seekonk Veterans Council Meeting, Audio #066	
Chairman	Kevin Kugel	
Audio/Transcriber	James LaFlame	
Attendees	<p>Committee Members: Kevin Kugel (Chair), William Curtis (Vice Chair), Moises Moniz, Adam Tumlinson, Joseph Raez & Matt Pezzullo Other: James LaFlame (VSO) Absent: Russ Pion (excused)</p>	
Meeting Minutes		
Discussion	Meeting minutes for October 2, 2025 approved.	
Action Items	Send to Town Clerk and post on town website	
Deadline	ASAP	
Agenda Topic		
	VSO/Chair Updates	

VSO/Chair Updates	
Discussion	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Jim returned from his training conference last night (Executive Office of Veterans Services in Leominster).2. The conference was cut a day shorter than usual (due to funding), so the last day of VA benefits training was very rushed.3. He is unsure if Navy Band Northeast will be able to support the Veterans Day Luncheon at the senior center on Wednesday November 5th. Their POC has been in contact with Jim and is hopeful they'll be able to perform the mission, the issue is the government shutdown.4. Jim will be hosting a veterans coffee hour on Monday, November 10th at 2pm (day before Veterans Day). He was hoping to have a presenter from the VA, but the government shutdown is also an issue for them.5. Jim removed LaNon as an administrator from the Seekonk Department of Veterans Services Facebook page since she has moved out of the area. He sent requests to make Kevin, Bill and Adam administrators.6. Kevin mentioned the article that was written by Joe Siegal for the Seekonk Reporter (from the interview he did with Kevin and Jim). He thought it was factual and was a good advertisement for things that the Veterans Council were doing for the town.

Agenda Topic		
Old Business	Veterans Day Rolling Parade and Ceremony (Nov. 11 th)	
Discussion		<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Times were confirmed; meet at 9am, roll at 10am and the ceremony is at 11am.2. Kevin will send out the official invitation to the Seekonk Police and Fire Departments.3. Jim has received a few confirmed parade participants. He has also heard from two individuals that were not veterans, but volunteered to drive any veteran that is not able to drive themselves.4. All invited ceremony participants are confirmed except for Congressman Auchincloss.5. Margie mailed three poems, and as always wants Jim to decide which one she reads.6. Adam will ask E.J. McQuade if he is able to come back and speak at the ceremony.7. Volunteers for the ceremony include Joe to read the governor's proclamation, Bill to ring the fire bell as the KIAs are read, and Kevin to speak about the Holiday Festival before the ceremony concludes.8. Council members will likely drive their own cars in the parade instead of riding the antique fire truck. This makes the parade longer and prevents cars being stuck back at Briarwood Plaza.

Agenda Topic	
Old Business	Holiday Festival
Discussion	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Dates were confirmed; tree pickup from the supplier on November 28th, tree setup at the park on November 29th and the tree lighting on December 6th.2. Bill provided the layout for 35 trees. With this new supplier, we can add trees if we have enough sponsors. Adam suggested getting decorations at a dollar store to decorate any trees that were not sponsored.3. Mo will be meeting up with our new tree supplier (Al-Jac's in Providence) to give him all of the logistical details.4. Jim can easily add the new supplier as a vendor to the town. Once we get an invoice from the supplier, he can get the town to cut a check out of our funds.5. Santa and his ride, Seekonk Fire Museum's antique fire truck, have been confirmed.6. Bill will check with the new priest at his church if we can borrow the chair for Santa again. Mo mentioned that he has a tall rocking chair in his garage he has been looking to get rid of...if things don't work out at the church, but Bill doesn't think it will be a problem.

Agenda Topic	
Old Business	Holiday Festival (continued)
Discussion	<ol style="list-style-type: none">7. Bill will again pick up cookies for the tree lighting. His wife will once again put them in individual bags.8. Kevin will coordinate with Young's Catering for the hot chocolate for December 6th. He'll again request just one dispenser, but said they only require a heads-up of one week.9. Joe is revamping the flyers to include specifics. It also has a QR code that will generate a spreadsheet. They are directed to confirm with Jim to coordinate payment and pickup of lights.10. Adam mentioned how Grist Mill's advertising for their trees was excellent. Kevin stated that they were also going to be providing a limited menu of free meals for veterans on Veterans Day.11. The date for the town's tree lighting has not been posted yet. Hopefully it will not fall on the same day (although their ceremony is normally later than ours).
Topic	Adjournment
Motion made by Mo to adjourn, seconded by Joe and voted unanimously	