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**BRANFORD
VETERANS PARADE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Date/Time: September 27, 2023 4:30 PM
Location: Branford Community House**

Paul E. Flanigan
BRANFORD TOWN CLERK

Agenda/Old Business:

Call to order at 4:30. In attendance: Bill O'Brien, Ed Masotta, Elliot Hastings, Dennis Flanigan, John Fitzgerald, Phil Zielinski and Don Langlois.

Update on marching units / Booklet:

Participating groups that have RSVP'd so far:

Branford HS Band
Take A Vet Fishing
Stony Creek Fife and Drum
Elks
Branford Garden Club
East Shoreline Catholic Academy School
Antique Car Club
Blue Star Mothers
Boy/Girl Scouts
American Legion/VFW

Cemetery Service Starting Time / Veterans Park was discussed. Veteran's Park will be included in the morning wreath laying and wreaths will be placed at cemetery tombstones by Boy Scouts on 04 November and taken down 18 November.


Branford High School Gym for backup: Dennis Flanigan will take for action.

Essay Contest: Discussion if it will continue since Sean Scanlon is no longer a state representative. Will research before the next meeting.

New Business

- A. Discussions about a parade marshal. Ed Masotta will research his unit's JAG officer about serving as speaker and marshal.
- B. Elliott has confirmed Steve Chamberlain for Invocation & Benediction during the ceremony on the Town Green
- C. Dennis Flanigan will invite all selectmen to the ceremony and Branford Police Dept is aware of date and time.
- D. The Committee also discussed whether there should be a parade due to limited attendance compared to Memorial Day. Branford is one of the few towns that still has a Veterans Day Parade. After further discussion, it was agreed that before recommending cancellation of the Parade, we would try to increase participation in 2024 by inviting other neighboring towns and other veteran-related organizations to participate.

Meeting adjourned at 5:40pm.

Submitted By: 
JOHN FITZGERALD