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**BRANFORD**  
**VETERANS PARADE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
SPECIAL

*Lee E. Apin*  
BRANFORD TOWN CLERK

**Date/Time: May 6, 2024 4:45 PM**  
**Location: Branford Community House**

- **Call to order.** In attendance were: John Fitzgerald (Chairman), Elliot Hastings, Dennis Flanigan, Harvey Goldstein, Bill O'Brien, Ed Masotta, Don Langlois, Ray Ingraham, Phil Zielinski.
- **Invocation/benediction invites:** Pastor Steve Chamberlain and Father Gutierrez from St John Bosco have been invited to give the Invocation and Benediction. Father Gutierrez has tentatively confirmed attendance provided there are no funeral obligations to which he must attend to on Memorial Day. Ray Ingraham will reach out Paster Chamberlain to see if he will be attending.
- **Essay Contest:** Bill O'Brien has the lead on this project. He has designed certificates and is working on obtaining funds for gift cards for the authors of the best essays.
- **Publicity:** Bill O'Brien has been coordinating with Pam Johnson for an article about this year's Parade Marshal, Bob Janicki.
- **Update on marching units / booklet review.** Attendees who have RSVP'd so far include: Lia Witten (Singer), Dennis Nardella (sound system), Lions Club, Elks, Branford Garden Club, Girl Scouts, Branford Town Band, Antique Cars, Branford Fire Department, Stony Creek Fife and Drum, Take-A-Vet Fishing, East Shoreline Catholic Academy (ESCA), Boy Scouts.

The committee agreed to invite the Branford High School Band to participate in a reduced capacity since the Band does not have enough musicians to march in this year's parade. Instead, the Band will send some musicians to the naval wreath ceremony and the ceremony on the town green.

- **Proposals for last page of booklet.** Harvey Goldstein created an informative composition for the last page about the history of Memorial Day. If we can obtain the number of Branford residents who died while in the military, we will include those numbers as well.
- **Status of gym backup for foul weather:** The Branford HS gym has been reserved as a backup in case of bad weather.

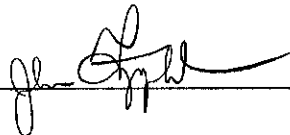
### **Old Business**

- With no word on the pending construction work being conducted on Main Street, the Committee is preparing to use the usual parade route as has been used in years past. The Committee will again re-examine this at the May 20 Committee meeting as we may have a better idea of the project's progress/timeline.

### **New Business**

- Ray Ingraham and Harvey Goldstein were unanimously elected to be the new co-chairmen of the Veterans Parade Committee. They will assume their duties immediately after the Memorial Day Parade.
- **Adjournment** at 5:21pm.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_



*John Fitzgerald 05/07/2025*