

**VETERANS PARADE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF AUGUST 10 2017 MEETING**

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Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm by Chairman Bill O'Brien

Members present Frank Kinney, Rich Dunn, Elliott Hastings, Dana Strickland, Ray Ingraham, Phil Zielinski and Juris Patrylak. Members not present Dennis Flanagan, Vincent Giordano and Mary Grande

Minutes of May 11 2017 meeting approved

Financial Report- No change

The purpose of the 8-10-17 meeting was to discuss the future of our Veterans Day Parade. A discussion centered on the low attendance we have had over the years compared to Memorial Day. Bill read an email he received from Dennis Flanagan regarding the cancellation of the 2017 Connecticut Veterans Parade in Hartford. Their release said rising cost and the difficulty in raising funds coupled with the dwindling number of spectators who come out had brought them to this conclusion.

Frank Kinney indicated that instead of just canceling the parade with little notice maybe we should notify the public that unless attendance increases we will cancel future Veterans Day Parades and only have one on Memorial Day. It was suggested we prepare a press release regarding this and request time on BCTV a couple of weeks before the parade to notify the public what will happen unless attendance improves.

Ray Ingraham made a motion, seconded by Frank Kinney, "To continue the Veterans Day parade one more year and to publicize that if attendance at the parade does not increase that future Veterans Day parades would be eliminated". Vote 8-0 in favor.

We will plan the same parade as in the past and discuss the details at our next meeting on September 14.

Next meeting September 14, 2017 at WW II Veterans Memorial Community Center at 6:00 pm. Other meetings October 12 and October 26 at Fire House and November 16 to review this years parade.

Meeting adjourned at 5:50 pm.

Respectively Submitted  
Bill O'Brien, Chairman