



TOWN OF BROOKLYN

P.O. Box 356 - Route 6 and 169
BROOKLYN, CONNECTICUT 06234

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Memorial Day Parade Committee
Sub Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 27, 2023, 5:30 pm
Via Zoom & Clifford B. Green Memorial Center

Present: Austin Tanner, Joe Voccio, Lou Brodeur, Richard Dvorin, Joanne Eiler, David Costa, Courtney Crofts

Also Present: Sandy Brodeur, Steve Breen, Sharon Loughlin via Zoom

Absent: TFC Kyle Ambrose, Pam Nichols

1. **Call to Order:** A. Tanner called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm
2. **Approve Minutes of March 30, 2023:** L. Brodeur made a motion to approve the minutes; J. Eiler seconded; and the motion was passed

3. **Public Comment:** None

4. **Discussion on Parade**

- **Route:** The Parade will begin at the Fairgrounds. It goes up Route 169, left onto Brooklyn Common after the Bank, right onto Route 6, right back onto Route 169 and down to the cemetery. The parade needs to double up and the front of it should go down to the Post Office so they can get off Route 6 while the wreath is being placed at the monument. The Fire Trucks stay at the back of the parade. They go side by side on Route 169 by the library. R. Dvorin presented a list of nine veterans, so at this time, one wagon should be fine, unless the AmVets want a wagon. A. Tanner will check. There is a flag in the conference room at the Green building that could be used for the stage at the Fairgrounds. Vets and boy scouts can lay wreaths together, one of each for each wreath.

- **Grand Marshall:** J. Voccio will check to see if Don Church will serve as Grand Marshall. A. Tanner stated that it would be nice if we could get a car from one of the dealerships if we get Don Church. Second choice for Grand Marshall could be S. Breen's cousin, Dan Ledogar. We should introduce the Grand Marshall.

- **Participants:** A. Tanner spoke with the Reverend J. Newell at the Federated Church, and she will get three speakers for the parade from her parish. He also spoke with Mr. Kelleher about the band so that is all set. A. Tanner will speak with P. Buell to get students to say the poems. He will also check to see what we have for flags at the Town Hall, both for the cemetery and to hand out. C. Crofts is waiting to hear back from Killingly Band, and she will check with a girl scout leader at her school for contacts. A. Tanner said the AmVets have a color guard and a firing squad. L. Brodeur is taking care of decorating the wagon(s). S. Breen suggested hanging the flag on the back of the stage.

- **Program:** We have everyone sit down for the ceremony and then break for a few minutes and then get in line for the parade. C. Crofts will be mainly responsible for organizing the marchers; she will need a list of all the marchers and poster board. Hanging out small flags should be organized before the parade; they are handed out to the people watching the parade. The larger flags can be placed by the monuments, in front of the firehouse, and on the trucks, etc. C. Crofts suggested we stop at the

monument on the way up Route 169 so Route 6 would not be blocked, and the Veterans could be in the front. J. Eiler said there should be something written out which shows step by step what will be happening. S. Breen stated that we make the loop, bring the wagons to the firehouse side; marchers could go in front of them, and the Veterans could still see at the monument. R. Dvorin said the Veterans can still get around. A. Tanner read a list of the wreaths that are placed, Blackwells Brook, Putnam Statue, Post Office, WWI (169/6), WWII (Bank), Korea (Bank), Vietnam (Bank), Mortlake, and South Cemetery. S. Breen said hanging the flag from the ladder truck would be too difficult. C. Croft said she would be the monument person that directs traffic.

5. Fairgrounds. After the parade, we will go to the Better Living Building and have coffee, water, soda, Gatorade, donuts, and cheese. There are still drinks leftover from Earth Day at the Community Center. There will be no restriction on who can eat. The Fair traditionally leaves the overhead doors to the grandstands closed. If we are seating everyone, we may need to reach out to Ryan about opening it up.

6. Speakers: It would be nice to have the Veterans speak if they would. R. Dvorin will ask Mark Dauphinais (sp) if he will speak. A. Tanner will see if Sherri Vogt will speak. A. Tanner spoke with John Don about doing the speakers at the cemetery and he said he could if he has power there. Fire Department can supply power. Maybe someone could sing America the Beautiful, and a young person could lead the Pledge of Allegiance; maybe a third and fourth grade chorus. We have to make sure the public knows that Family Fun Day is being held on a different day than the parade. We can advertise with WINY, Superintendent of Schools, and the Turnpike Buyer. We can send letters to Veterans based on the Tax Assessor's database. J. Voccio stated that maybe we could introduce the new Recreation Direction to Gary-O at WINY and they could talk about the Parade and Family Fun Day. S. Breen suggested we explain to the townspeople where the tradition of donuts and cheese came from. Anne Ennis, of Mystic Cheese, told L. Brodeur that the wheel of cheese is made from milk from her own cows. The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, May 11, 2023, at 5:30 pm.

7. Public Comment: None

8. Adjourn: A. Tanner adjourned the meeting at 6:37 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Mileski, Recording Secretary