



## TOWN OF BROOKLYN

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

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Memorial Day Parade Committee  
Special Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, February 22, 2024, 6:30 pm  
Clifford B. Green Memorial Building  
and via Zoom

Present: Austin Tanner, Courtney Crofts, Amy Brosnan, Tiffany Rosen, Joe Asermelly, Rich Dvorin, Lou Brodeur, Joe Voccio, Ray Preece, Bill Skene, Dave Lee, Sandy Brodeur, Keith Gosselin, Steve Breen, Kerrie Thiffeault, Lisa Mileski, Recording Secretary

1. **Call to Order:** A. Tanner called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and asked if someone would take over as Chair of the Committee and there were no volunteers.
2. **Approve Meeting Minutes of June 8, 2023:** L. Brodeur made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of June 8, 2023; D. Lee seconded; and the motion passed.
3. **Public Comment:** None
4. **Review of 2023 Event:** See below
5. **Discussion of Memorial Day and/or Family Fun Day**
  - a. **Plans for 2024:** See below
  - b. **Programs:** See below
  - c. **Grand Marshall:** The Board thinks it is very important to have a Grand Marshall for the parade. S. Brodeur suggested we ask our Veterans Liasian, Sherri Vogt, for some suggestions
  - d. **Participants:** See below
  - d. **Wreaths:** See below

The Committee went over the 2023 Memorial Day Parade. L. Brodeur thought the wagons for the Veterans worked out good and hopes we can improve it this year, and perhaps fill two wagons this time. R. Dvorin said he would take on the role of recruiting more Veterans, seeing if they need rides to the parade, maybe getting some to do speeches. C. Crofts stated everyone was happy with the donuts and cheese but that we had too much. L. Brodeur will be in charge of setting up the wagons for transportation. There were discussions about the speeches made at the beginning of the parade and during the parade, that they were lengthy and kind of similar. T. Rosen spoke with Jonathan March, and he said he is willing to have the Elementary School Chorus do a song at the Parade. She will follow up with him on this. C. Crofts will reach out to the Killingly High School Band and see if they would like to be in the parade. J. Asermelly stated he thought it would be good to have family fun day after the parade like in past years, and the Board discussed this at length. A. Brosnan, K. Gosselin, K. Thiffeault, J. Asermelly, and C. Crofts will be in charge of the games for the children, and it is hoped that we can recruit some Town businesses to help with the games. Parks and Recreation will be in charge of the float competition. We will not have any food and will begin the games right after the parade and be done before lunch. J. Voccio suggested a meet-and-greet between the families and the Veterans. C. Crofts and T. Rosen will be in charge of keeping the different groups in order. D. Lee suggested we set up sub-committees for each aspect of the parade. He also said he can make sure we have a PA system at the parade. S. Breen said the fire department will take care of the donuts and cheese and make sure they have the fire trucks there. A. Tanner and J. Voccio will work

on the program for the parade. C. Crofts and T. Rosen, et al. will be in charge of serving the donuts and cheese, and it was decided there will be no coffee this year. A. Tanner will order and pick up the wreaths, and S. Brodeur will take care of getting them where they need to go. The Board thinks it is very important to have a Grand Marshall for the parade. S. Brodeur suggested we ask our Veterans Liasian, Sherri Vogt, for some suggestions. The Committee talked about advertising the parade, getting more people involved, recruiting businesses to do floats, and perhaps having to change the route if it is too big. There was talk about having decorated tractors and horses in the parade. A. Tanner suggested we have individuals walking with the parade to hand out the little flags to spectators, maybe Middle School students. S. Breen stated that he did not think it was unreasonable to ask some of his members to be in charge of keeping the parade in line and organizing the chaos. A. Tanner said we need someone to play the taps at the monument, and C. Crofts said we need a color guard to fire shots. K. Gosselin suggested someone taking a video of the parade; S. Brodeur suggested Cory LeBlanc who does filming for the Town; and she will check with him. A. Tanner urged all the members of the Committee to work on this, especially on getting a Grand Marshall, so we can have some plans for next meeting. S. Breen suggested maybe dedicating the parade to a hometown hero who gave his/her life, and maybe have one of the speakers talk about this person and have his/her family members be involved.

**6. Set Next Meeting Date:** The next meeting will be March 21, 2024 at 5:30 pm. A. Tanner hopes the Committee members will come to the next meeting with some concrete ideas.

**6. Public Comment:** C. Barna, 376 Stetson Road, made public comment. She had some ideas, including a mini boot camp for the children.

**7. Adjourn:** L. Brodeur made a motion to adjourn the meeting; S. Breen seconded; and the meeting adjourned at 7:46 pm.

Lisa Mileski, Recording Secretary