

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. PUBLIC PORTION

4. MINUTES

July 28, 2008- Regular Meeting

5. OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion of Monument Presentations

Discussion of field trip to foundry

Discussion of use to professional expertise

Discussion of report structure

6. OTHER BUSINESS

7. ADJOURNMENT



*CITY OF SHELTON
CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL AD HOC COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, August 28, 2008
7:30 P.M., Huntington Branch of the Plumb Library*

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Jim Connery, Chairman
Martin Coughlin
John Formanek
Guy Beardsley
August Firgau
Alphonse Sabetta
Edward Wittkofski, Vice-Chairman
Carolyn Ivanoff
Philip Jones

Guest: Lois Beardsley

Also Present: Melissa Anglace, Clerk

Vice-Chairman Edward Wittkofski passed out Shelton Civil War Memorial Study (attached with the minutes).

Chairman Jim Connery called the regular meeting of the Civil War Memorial Ad Hoc Committee meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. PUBLIC PORTION

None

4. MINUTES

Chairman Jim Connery questioned the Committee in regards to the July 24, 2008 regular minutes. **Martin Coughlin made a motion to accept the minutes of the Civil War Memorial Committee held on July 24, 2008. Guy Beardsley seconded the motion.**

A voice vote was taken; motion passed unanimously.

5. OLD BUSINESS

Discussion of Monument Presentations

Chairman Jim Connery conversation about what has been discussed in past meetings such as; field trip on Philip Jones property, the need for a crane operator to move the rocks, monument presentation, and a wall that will visually separate the monument presentation. Ultimately a report will need to be prepared to submit to the Board of Alderman. The report will be completed in three phases; the monument, the wall and vegetation.

Discussion of field trip foundry

Chairman Jim Connery discussed the idea of going to visit the Foundry located in Newburgh, NY. The Foundry is currently in the process of completing a monument that will be placed on the Hartford Capital. The Foundry is completing a Civil War Monument that Chairman Jim Connery feels that the committee should go and take a field trip.

Chairman Jim Connery at this time discussed and passed around the several pictures of soldier positions he was able to take at the Pennsylvania Memorial at Gettysburg.

Discussion of use of professional expertise

Chairman Jim Connery introduced Guest Lois Beardsley, a landscape architect to the committee. She continued to discuss her thoughts about the Civil War Memorial site and how to tie everything into the new expanding Riverwalk.

Discussion of report structure

Chairman Jim Connery explains to the committee that the report will have to be structured in three phases and will have to convince the Board of Alderman that it's more than a just monument it's an integration of an entire presentation at the Riverwalk.

Martin Coughlin brings up one of the topics under discussion the stones being carved. John Formanek believes that Vice- Chairman Edward Wittkofski concept of a plaque this way there is no discussion about the rocks being able to be imprinted they could just be used in a natural state. Chairman Jim Connery remarks that rocks can now be cut with lasers and we no longer have to worry about cracking the rock. Monuments are now carved at the site and no longer sent away.

Chairman Jim Connery converses about another issue; separating the names of those who died and then those who served. Chairman Jim Connery believes that it is appropriate to carve the names of those who died on the monument. Maybe the committee would consider using names as a boarder around the site. Martin Coughlin believes that this would be a good concept.

Carolyn Ivanoff discussion about soldiers that are listed as Huntington men. She explains that the records aren't always clear; it's possible to find a Huntington soldier that served in the New York state. Would this soldier be included on the Monument or not? Carolyn Ivanoff believes that Vice-Chairman Edward Wittkofski initial list of the soldier's from Shelton is fairly close except for a few name discrepancies.

Chairman Jim Connery looks over the pictures that were taken at the Pennsylvania Memorial at Gettysburg and discusses with the committee about the soldier positions. The committee agreed that the soldier should be a bronze and live-action.

Vice-Chairman Edward Wittkofski made a motion to continue the design work with the aspect of having a bronze, live-action soldier on top of a large stone work which represents a battlefield in a position north of the existing monuments of the wars of the 20th Century. Guy Beardsley seconded the motion on the floor.

Discussion on the motion:

Committee members converse and agree with the monument location, use of a series of rocks to represent the landscape of the middle south battlefields, and use of a soldier in an action position.

Guest Lois Beardsley discussion on Riverwalk destinations, the monument placement and Cornell access road. Vice-Chairman Edward Wittkofski adds the connection to Cornell Street and the name of the first Civil War soldier from Shelton to be killed in battle.

Philip Jones calls to bring the discussion to an end.

A voice vote was taken; all were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Jim Connery asks Guest Lois Beardsley if she would start some sketches for the committee.

Alphonse Sabetta suggests to the committee the wall surrounding the monument might be inviting a problem. The wall might be giving the graffiti artists a blackboard to work on. The monument is going to be located in an isolated area where it will be prone for this type of behavior. Perhaps instead of a wall, maybe adding floral types of landscape to dress up the monuments it will also add color. Guest Lois Beardsley comments that trees would act as good backdrop. The objective is to keep the focus on the monuments.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

Vice-Chairman Edward Wittkofski talked about the Ninth Regiment Connecticut Volunteers Monument ceremony. The monument honors the Ninth Regiment Connecticut Volunteers at Vicksburg National Military Park.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Guy Beardsley motioned to adjourn, Vice-Chairman Edward Wittkofski seconded the motion.

A voice vote was taken; all were in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa A. Anglace

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Clerk

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