

Wakefield Veterans Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 17, 2018

Call to Order

Chairman Jay Pinette called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm in the First Floor Conference Room, Wakefield Town Hall, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call

All Board members were present. Guests recognized were Jason Donovan and Dan Benjamin.

Motion to approve the March 2018 minutes made by Richard Pearson, seconded by Tom Collins; voted and so approved.

VSO Report

Chairman Pinette announced that a new Veteran Service Officer has been selected for Wakefield to replace Karen Burke who is now VSO for Melrose. Chosen was US Navy Veteran Hector Erinna of Braintree.

Memorial Day Ceremony

The ceremony will be held in the Galvin School Auditorium starting at 1 pm. as the Board decided that due to the possibility of rain all future Memorial Day Ceremonies will be held indoors.

Both the WHS Wind Ensemble and Chorus will perform.

Pinette is still seeking a speaker. He is looking into clergy from Wakefield's First Congregational Church for the invocation.

The local Girl Scouts will assist with placement of the Gold Star Wreath.

Jon Kennedy of Honeydew Donuts will, once again, supply coffee and donuts in the school cafeteria after the .

Chairman Pinette explained Project 351 and having a Wakefield student participate in the ceremony.

Motion was made by Richard Pearson, seconded by Pam Hart for approval. Voted and so approved.

Flags on Veterans' Graves

Tom Collins has the flags which will be placed on all veterans' graves at both Lakeside and Forest Glade cemeteries. He's hoping to get as may volunteers as possible to help both days.

Veterans Food Market

The Market will be held tomorrow, April 18, in the Town Hall Conference Room, first floor.

Unfinished Business

In future meetings, the Board will come prepared to establish its Mission Statement, who we are what we do, etc.

New Business

Discussion was held on holding a combination meeting with the Melrose VAB possibly in June to gather ideas on more ways to help Wakefield's veterans. The Melrose board does a lot in conjunction with Melrose school students as they have a liaison in the school system. The Melrose VSO is starting a peer support group for families of currently deployed servicemen and women.

Adjournment

Richard Pearson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Tom Collins. The meeting adjourned at 7:18 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Pam Hart

Minutes Approved by: Jay Pinette