

## Veterans Council Minutes

Thursday 4 JUNE 2020

### 1. CALL TO ORDER: 1900 hrs. (via WebEx)

### 2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Frank Curtis, Keith Jermyn, Jack Rayburn, Joe Sweeney, MaryAnn Blackmur, Jay Ippolitto, Joe Gragg, Tom Burbank,

Excused: Scott McMillan, Benjamin Dulieu, Janine Suchecki

Absent: None

Ex-Officio:

DVS staff:

Guests: None

Frank Curtis opened the meeting by recognizing the passing of Hank Maude.

Keith Jermyn mentioned that the Veteran of the Year Award will be coming back to the Veterans Council. Additional things are being done for Hank Maude to include a scholarship presented to a student in the HHS Veterans Appreciation club. Also considering renaming to The Hank Maude "Service above Self" Veteran of the Year award to be presented on 11 NOV 2020. This name change will be tabled for action during the August 2020 Council Meeting.

### 3. OFFICER REPORTS:

a) Veterans Council MARCH 2020 Meeting Minutes: The March Meeting Minutes Approval is delayed until the August 2020 Council Meeting. There was No Meeting in April or May 2020 due to COVID-19.

b) Treasurers Report: No report presented at this meeting

c) VSO Report:

1. Thanks to all who supported the annual grave decorating and flagging.

2. Memorial Day - First virtual event. Very successful event. Chief Chapin, USN was the speaker

3. Special thank you to Jay Ippolito for his service and support as the Hingham Veterans Council Chaplin.

4. Food insecurities due to COVID-19 - Supported 24 clients with Stop & Shop Gift cards. HPD also assisted by presenting Gift cards from local restaurants. Additionally Hingham Public Schools Free Lunch program supplied 15 elderly clients, specifically Lincoln School residents, with extra meals providing a hot lunch every day of the week and a box lunch on weekends.

5. Three Service Academy Graduates in Hingham. Two rolling parades for the graduates and special mention of them during the Towns Board of Selectman meeting.

6. Rolling Parade done for Scott McMillan and Roland Hersey birthdays.

7. An Article on Janine Suchecki was written in the Hingham Anchor in the Getting to Know Your Veteran Volunteer.

8. POW/MIA Project - Working with Town Administrator to get back into full swing. Want to get it done by 3rd Friday December, in order to conduct POW/MIA DAY at Whitney Wharf.

9. Valor Act - wants up and running again by 1 JULY to coincide with the new Fiscal Year.

10. Veterans Day Speaker, Senior Master Sergeant, USAF, stationed out of Westover Air Base.

d) PAO Report: Nothing to report at this time.

### 4. NEW BUSINESS

a) American Legion Update: None at this time.

b) VFW Update: VFW standing down due to COVID -19. July 4th parade cancelled. Continuing to conduct meetings via WebEx. To use GAR Hall requires a formal request form and approval. It is now a lengthy process due to COVID-19. GAR is low on the list of building use priorities within the Town and probably will be while before it can be used again. Lastly, Hingham resident Finnegan Sullivan made the National VFW Magazine for Patriots Pen Award.

c) LPVA Update: None at this time

d) Mark Plouffe - Swim with a mission fundraiser request: All Council members approved a \$250 donation. Purpose of the swim is to raise money for Navy Veteran SO1 William Blake Marston who died on Active duty, Dan Haley Navy Seal Foundation, and the Hank Maude Scholarship.

d) Council By-Laws Revision/Discussion: Delayed until August 2020 Veterans Council Meeting

**5. COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS / SUGGESTIONS / UPDATES:**

Frank mentioned: No Council meeting in July.

Actions for August : Recognition for Hank Maude either through Veterans Council or Taking care of other veterans. May need to consider Lt Curtis Chase and CPL Chris Orlando scholarships.

2. Veteran of the Year - September . Now with Veterans Council. Need to come up with Award Criteria

Jay Ippolito mentioned that Jack Rayburns Great grandson will be operated on 5 June. Keep him in your prayers.

**MEETING ADJOURNED 1950 hrs.**

Respectfully submitted – Joe Sweeney