

TOWN OF GARNER
Veterans Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Date: September 12, 2023

Date and Time: Pursuant to the Bylaws governing the Garner Veterans Advisory Committee, a meeting of the Advisory Committee was held on September 12, at 0900 hrs at the White Deer Park Nature Center.

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:02am by John Foster. The committee members present were John Foster, Tim Stevens, Bob Carter, Helen Carter, Jeff Hicks, Don Searles, and Matt Pedone. Staff members present were Kayla Bender, Events Coordinator and Colleen Bockhahn, Recreation Program Manager. Phil Matthews, Town Council Liaison was also in attendance.
2. Approval of the Agenda:
 - a. Agenda approved.
3. Approval of the June Meeting Minutes:
 - a. Adjustments to June meeting minutes were provided by Tim and given to Kayla for staff to update before posting.
4. Petitions and Comments from the Public:
 - a. None.
5. Report from Standing Committees and Staff:
 - a. Tim will find a keynote speaker for the Veterans Day Observance.
 - b. Veterans Day Observance starts at 11am, with the concert beginning at 10:30am.
 - c. Memorial Day Observance starts at 9:30am and Council Member Matthews can emcee again.
 - d. Tim will look into getting a tree to plant for Wreath Laying and Gold Star Families.
 - e. It was noted that during the July 3 Independence Day event, PD diverted traffic to park on Bonica Creek and cars were driving down Bonica Creek walkway at night. Kayla will discuss these issues with Public Works and PD.
 - f. Suggestion to include Wall that Heals on the Purple Heart sign and to change sign location. Colleen to follow-up with Katie on sign status.
6. Old Business:
 - a. Committee shared their preference to not update brick process.
7. New Business:
 - a. Committee accepted and elected nominees from the last meeting. John Foster will be Committee Chair and Matt Pedone will be Vice Chair.
 - b. The next meeting will be adjusted to Monday, December 4 since staff will be in a conference during the regularly scheduled meeting. Same time and location.
 - c. Tim Stevens is working on a thank you dinner for Veterans.
8. Adjournment
 - i. The meeting was adjourned at 9:49am.