



OFFICE OF THE MEMORIALS AND MONUMENTS COMMITTEE
TOWN HALL, 511 MAIN STREET
DUNSTABLE, MA 01827-1313
978-649-4514

MEMORIALS AND MONUMENTS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Approved: **July 30, 2019**

Meeting Date: **Tuesday, January 22, 2019**

Scheduled Agenda Items.

1. Review and approval of May 1, 2018 meeting minutes.
2. Committee Issues for Discussion and Review
 - A. MMC Bylaw review and revisions as needed. Resolve the issue of tabling of the bylaw at the last Town Meeting.
 - B. Potential locating of the Dunstable Tercentenary sign on the Town Common; input requested by Board of Selectman.
 - C. Relocation of the Richard C. Mitchell granite bench located on the Swallow Union playground at the request of the Parks Commissioners.

Meeting Minutes.

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM. Attending for the committee: Alan Chaney, Joe Dean, and Philip DeNyse. Absent was Dana Metzler.
2. The committee reviewed the minutes of May 1, 2018, there were no additions or corrections. The minutes were adopted 3-0 and will be posted to town web site.
3. Bylaw review. The committee reviewed the recent history of the bylaw (Article 15) presented at the previous Town Meeting on May 14, 2018. In Town Meeting there were questions about the approval process for the relocation or retirement of a monument. There was an opinion expressed accomplishing this activity should require approval by Town Meeting, not just approval by the Board of Selectmen. Discussion at the Town Meeting was unable to resolve specific wording for a change and any change would have to undergo review by the town attorney, it was decided to table the article for further consideration and review by the Memorials and Monuments committee.
 - a. The committee discussed this history and if the concerns reflected a need to change the bylaw wording. The bylaw does contain multiple activities before a monument would undergo a change: public meeting, public notice, review by other town committees who may have interest in the

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- relocation or retirement, and finally a decision by the Board of Selectmen. It was discussed if this type of decision is in keeping with articles typically submitted for approval by Town Meeting. At the completion of the discussion there was no consensus for amending the bylaw. The consensus of the committee present was to resubmit the bylaw to the Town Administrator for addition on the next Town Meeting warrant.
4. Dunstable Tercentenary Sign. In the Board of Selectmen's meeting of September 4, 2018, the committee was asked if it would provide an opinion on the relocation of one of the Dunstable Tercentenary signs to reside on the Town Common. It was the opinion of the committee to support relocation of one of the signs to the Town Common. Mr. DeNyse will communicate this opinion to interested and relevant boards.
 5. Mitchell Memorial Bench at Swallow Union. The committee also discussed the plans of the Parks Commission to move the Richard Mitchell memorial bench at the Swallow Union playground. Mr. DeNyse explained the retirement of the old playground equipment leaves this bench far from the current playground equipment location. Parks is planning to move the bench closer to current equipment. A specific location has not yet been determined. The committee supported this change and asked Parks to keep it informed of its plans for relocation.
 6. Other Business. Mr. DeNyse provided an updated copy of the List of Monuments in Dunstable reflecting the edits discussed in the May 1, 2018 committee meeting. There was no further discussion on this list.
 7. The meeting was adjourned at 6:27 PM. The next meeting has not been scheduled.

Respectfully Submitted,

Philip J. DeNyse
Memorials and Monuments Committee Recorder

Enclosures:

- (1) List of Monuments in Dunstable
- (2) New Business Presentation, Jan 22, 2019

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Memorial and Monuments Committee

List of Monuments in Dunstable

	Monument Name or Designation	Location	Comment or Criteria for Adoption	Recommend Adoption (Y/N)	Listed in the Original Assessment	Maintenance Needed?	Agency Responsible for Repair
1	Revolutionary War	Town Hall		Yes	Yes		Board of Selectmen
2	Civil War	Town Hall		Yes	Yes		Board of Selectmen
3	World War 1	Town Hall		Yes	Yes		Board of Selectmen
4	World War 2	Town Hall		Yes	Yes		Board of Selectmen
5	Korean Conflict	Town Hall		Yes	Yes		Board of Selectmen
6	Vietnam War	Town Hall		Yes	Yes		Board of Selectmen
7	Richard Bacon Bench	Town Common		Yes	Yes		Board of Selectmen
8	Mary F. Pelletier Bench	Town Common		Yes	Yes		Board of Selectmen
9	Idal E. & Warren W. Bacon Bench	Town Common		Yes	Yes		Board of Selectmen
10	Frank & Maria E. Palumbo Bench	Town Common		Yes	Yes		Board of Selectmen
11	Arthur L. Drew Bench	Town Common		Yes	Yes		Board of Selectmen

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12	Charles E. Goss Bench	Town Common		Yes	Yes		Board of Selectmen
13	George R. McGovern Sr. Bench	Town Common		Yes	Yes		Board of Selectmen
14	Millstone	Town Common	Not a memorial or monument.	Yes	Yes		Board of Selectmen
15	Vernon English Monument	Corner of Pleasant and Brook St.	On Private Property	Yes	Yes		Veteran's Agent
16	Watering Trough	Pleasant and Main St.	Not a memorial or monument.	Yes	Yes		Board of Selectmen
17	Robert Rockwell Memorial	Main St.	It is a sign.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Veteran' Agent
18	POW Square – Dumont	High and Thorndike St		Yes	Yes		Veteran' Agent
19	Jack DeBarbian Monument Bridge	Pleasant St at Salmon Brook		Yes	Yes		Veteran' Agent
20	Archer Davis Plaque	Town Hall		Yes	Yes		Board of Selectmen
21	Dunstable Town Sign (Tercentenary Committee)	To be determined.		Yes	Yes		Historical Commission
22	Merle Paige	Water Dept. on Main Street		Yes	Yes		Water Department
23	Ed Fahey	Highway Dept.		Yes	Yes		Highway Dept.
24	Archer Davis	Library (Flag Pole)			No		Library
25	Deleted						
26	Margaret D. Larter	Larter Family Memorial Field		Yes	Yes		Parks
27	Adam Barrows	Larter Family Memorial Field		Yes	Yes		Parks

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28	Richard C. Mitchell	Swallow Union Elementary School Playground		Yes	No		Parks
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Status Codes:

1. Adopt
2. Evaluating
3. Reject



1

Memorials and Monuments: New Business

New Business Discussions

Jan 22, 2019

Memorials and Monuments Committee



2

Tercentenary Sign Placement

- BOS asked on Sep 4, 2018 for MMC opinion on the relocation of the Tercentenary sign to be place on the Town Common



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Potential Sign Placement



3

- Should the sign be placed on the Town Common and if so, where?
 - Suggested location to the left of the Millstone.



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Richard Mitchell Bench at Swallow Union Playground



4



Died in September 2012. Graduate of Groton Dunstable High School in 2009.

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Mitchell Monument Location



5



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Challenge



6

- Reconfiguration of the playground equipment has left this bench and associated memorial tree orphaned from the new playground equipment; now located on the old basketball court.
 - Opinion of Parks Commissioners is to move the orphaned bench closer to the play ground area
 - The memorial tree is in poor condition and is not able to be moved
- Parks formulating a plan to re-landscape the entire area around the new playground area which will include a new location for the bench

Memorials and Monuments Committee

