

# Veteran's Advisory Board

Francis Kirby, President  
Gene Morris, Secretary



Jim Blaise  
Joe Costa  
Phil Cote  
Jackie Follett  
Paul Follett  
Heath Hobson  
Greg Mayer  
Lyle Pirnie  
Robert Remiesiewicz  
Caster Salemi  
Frank Speeckaert

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**MINUTES**  
**VETERANS ADVISORY BOARD**  
**September 8, 2022**  
**6:00 PM**  
**DPW MEETING ROOM**

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Fran Kirby called the meeting to order at 18:00 and called the roll:

<b>Members Present</b>	<b>Members Absent</b>
Fran Kirby	Heath Hobson
Greg Mayer	Caster Salemi
Gene Morris	Lyle Pirnie
Phil Cote	Jim Blaise, Plainville Representative
Frank Speeckaert	
Joe Costa	
Jackie Follett	
Paul Follett	
Robert Remiesiewicz, Plainville Representative	

**Invited Guests Present:**

Steve Travers, District Veteran's Agent  
Nicole Pelletier, Veteran's Agent's Office

**Documents Reviewed:**

1. Minutes of August 1, 2022, Meeting

*President Kirby opened the meeting at 1800 and called the roll. He then invited the Committee and guests present to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.*

**I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

## II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. The minutes of the meeting of August 11, 2022, were reviewed. Members offered a few minor edits and upon a motion by Frank Speeckaert and second by Phil Cote, the board unanimously approved as amended.

## III. NEW BUSINESS

### a. Planning for Upcoming Events

- i. 9/11 Ceremony: The board discussed the plan and schedule for this year's 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony. The Ceremony is scheduled for 12:00 at the Baptist Common. A new 9/11 remembrance poem was suggested, and Greg Mayer volunteered to read it. Invited guests include the Chiefs of the Police and Fire Departments as well as the Vice President of the Town Council, John Simmons. The Police and Fire Departments will have their respective Honor Guards present and the military organizations, DAV, American Legion, and VFW were invited to also have their Honor Guards present. The American Legion Auxiliary will place roses at the monument and Jackie Follett volunteered to play taps with Joe Rober. Legion Chaplain Manny DeSourdy will lead the invocation and closing prayer.
- ii. Air Force's Birthday: Mr. Travers noted that the celebration of the Air Force's birthday will take place in the Town Hall Main Lobby on Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm. All are invited.
- iii. Navy's Birthday: Similar to the Air Force's anniversary, the Navy's anniversary is October 13<sup>th</sup> which is on a Thursday. It is expected that the celebration of the Navy anniversary will take place at 12:00pm in the Main Lobby of the Town Hall.
- iv. The Board discussed upcoming changes to the board composition, including soliciting participation from Wrentham who, while part of the District, do not have any representation on the board. The next meeting will include nominations/elections of new officers for the Board for the upcoming year. Board composition is expected to include 5 members from North Attleboro, 2 from Plainville, and 2 from Wrentham.

## IV. Old Business

- a. GWOT Monument Sub-committee. There was a short discussion of the sub-committee's efforts around the establishment of a monument to those who have served on the Global War on Terror. Mr. Mayer stated that the paperwork for the 501(c)3 non-profit entity has been filed with the IRS and that it might take some time for the IRS to approve the application. Discussion on fund raising opportunities ensued and Mr Mayer handed out cards that members could pass out to anyone interested in making donations. Further updates to be provided at the next meeting.

## V. New Business

- a. Mr. Kirby announced that effective immediately, he was resigning as President of the Board. He indicated that he enjoyed his time as President and noted other personal commitments contributed to his decision to resign. Upon a motion by Mr. Mayer and Ms. Follett, the Board unanimously voted to publicly acknowledge Mr. Kirby's

leadership and contributions over the years and wished him well on all his future endeavors.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

*There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Morris made a motion to adjourn.*

*Motion was seconded by Mr. Cote and the board unanimously voted to adjourn.*

*President Kirby adjourned the meeting at 1900.*

DRAFT