

OAK FOREST VETERANS COMMISSION

** Meeting **

DATE: Thursday April 20, 2023 at **19:30**

Oak Forest City Hall [Blue Room](#)

Chairman: (X) Joe Pilch

Liaison to the city: (X) Paul Selman

Committee Members 11: () Chris Adams, (X) Ralph Chichester, (X) Dennis Mitzner, () Dave Moore, (X) John Perales, (X) Jim Pioth, (X) Don Snedden, (X) Tom O'Neill, () Jim Watson, (X) Rich Wojotowicz

Honorary Member:

Guest: Mayor Hank Kuspa, Maureen Kuspa & Joe Koce.

1. **Pledge of allegiance**

2. **Roll Call**

3. **Approval of Minutes**

- Approval of the March minutes by Don Snedden 2nd by Jim Pioth.
 - All members present approved, no nays.

4. **Liaison to the City Report Paul Selman:**

- Discussed at council meeting Home Town hero banners are available.

5. **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Flag receptacle is full again. Need to plan an emptying out day when warmer.
- Planning for FOURTH OF July 2024 concert at the old Oak-Fest grounds. Possibly have fireworks too.
 - Ralph, Joe, Dennis and Paul will research bands for concert July 4th.
- One of our members could use a little yard clean-up assistance. Weather is getting better so we need to pick a date.
- Operation Gratitude, says thank you to all who served which include Veterans, active duty, and first Responders. Do we make a donation or start a fundraiser?
- Veterans Birthday yard signs are in city hall. Need to decide how we distribute and do we restrict to certain age or not. Need a decision.
- Are there any restrictions for putting names on picture when they are transitioned to the TV?
- Veterans' picture board in hallway was removed. We will ask Communication Director to advertise on social media asking families if they want pictures returned. The family member could pick up at City Hall.

- The board the pictures were mounted we can advertise, to other Veterans Commissions, if they could use it with name change of course.

6. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Mayor Kuspa to attend our meeting to discuss July 4th event for 2024.
- Veterans Facebook page will be coming down. All Veterans information and pictures will be on the City of Oak Forest web page under Veterans Commission. All information/pictures needs to be given to Chrissy Maher for posting.
- Discussion on 4th of July event with Hank.
 - Fireworks may cost around \$35,000
 - Park District pavilion would be an option for band.
 - Have salute to Veterans.
 - Raiders could open their concession stand if they wanted to.
 - Port-A-Johns (and Janes) needed.
- Parking could be in the soccer fields at 157 & Long
- Memorial Flag placing around the city needs to be done weekend of May 20 need assistance.

7. **Once around the Table.**

Each member shares any information for Veterans.

Too much to discuss this month so no more information needed to be shared.

8. **ADJOURNMENT:** Adjourned at 21:23 by Dennis Mitzner 2nd by Tom O’Neill.
All members present approved.

Our next meeting is Thursday June 15, 2023 at 19:30 in [Blue Room](#).

Dates and times could change with approval of committee. If possible will be posted in agenda.

Meeting dates for 2023 meetings start at 19:30.

January 19	February 16	March 16	April 20	May 18	June 15
July 20	August 17	September 21	October 19	November 16	Dec 15 No meeting

What Happened On This Day – April 20

- **2010 The Deepwater Horizon oil rig explodes**

The explosion of the British Petroleum (BP) platform operated by Transocean killed 11 workers and led to the largest accidental marine oil spill in history.

- **1999 15 die in the Columbine High School massacre**

A further 24 victims were injured when two teenagers opened fire on students and teachers in the high school south of Denver.

- **1978 Soviet air defense shoots down Korean Air Lines Flight 902**

The Boeing 707's crew had miscalculated their route, taking them into Soviet airspace at the height of the Cold War. The jet made an emergency landing on a frozen lake. Two passengers were killed in the incident.

- **1951 A human organ is surgically replaced for the first time**

Romanian surgeon Dan Gavrilu used a section of the stomach to bypass the esophagus.

- **1902 Pierre and Marie Curie discover the radioactive element radium**

In 1903, the French couple received the Nobel Prize in Physics for their pioneering research.

Trivia: (You do not win anything, but it is fun playing?)

March question answered.

Q. In 1982 the [Vietnam Veterans Memorial](#) was dedicated in Washington, D.C., inscribed with the names of 57,939 members of U.S. armed forces. Over the following years, additions to the list have brought the total past 58,200. How many names on the memorial are those of service members who were actually Canadian citizens?

A. At least 100 names of Canadian Citizens.

April question

Q. What does WAC stand for?

- A. War Alliance Council
- B. Wounded Army Coalition
- C. **Women's Army Corps**
- D. None of the above.