

Fallen Firefighters Memorial Task Force

Minutes

Tuesday, March 03, 2020

Fire Station 4 at 4:30 pm

Attendance:

Councillor Dawn Dodge
Jeff McCormick, Fire Chief
Ryan Madill, President, IAFF Local 485
Barry Katzman, Citizen
Dave Upper, Deputy Fire Chief
Elizabeth Copeland, Citizen

Absent:

Chris Slota, Vice President, IAFF Local 485
Councillor Matthew Harris
Mayor Walter Sendzik

Staff Liaison:

Joan Demontigny, Fire Services, Recording Secretary
Ilyse Norton, Community, Recreation, and Culture Services

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1. **The Chair, Barry Katzman called the meeting to order at 4:36 pm.**
 2. **Recognition of Traditional Territories was read by the Chair**
 3. **Additions/Deletions to the Agenda**
First order of business – guests Kathleen Powell, Museum Supervisor and Lori Mambella, Museum Manager spoke on the scope of research. *See item 7 below.*
 4. **Motion to approve the agenda**

That the Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial Task Force adopt the agenda as presented.

Moved by Chief McCormick and Ryan Madill
Carried

5. **Motion to adopt the minutes of the previous meeting, Tuesday, February 4th.**

That the Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial Task Force adopt the minutes from February 4, 2020 as presented.

Moved by Councillors Dodge and Deputy Chief Upper
Carried

6. **Declarations of Interest**

None.

7. **Presentations, invited guests Kathleen Powell and Lori Mambella.**

- They were part of the Welland Canal Fallen Workers Task Force to for six years.
- They asked for context on the scope of research, this was discussed and they will put together research criteria on how and where to research and send to the Recording Secretary. They will also ask in their area if anyone wants to volunteer to assist with research.
- The Welland Canals Fallen Workers Task Force had a dedicated volunteer who spent hundreds of hours on research.
- What are the parameters around who qualifies as a Fallen Fire Fighter? Discussion ensued around this and is highlighted below in item 9.2.
- They will come back on as needed basis at the request of the committee.

8. **Business arising from the minutes**

Chair Katzman asked if there was further discussion required around costing on other memorial sites. Windsor's cost was \$300,000, Niagara Falls cost came in under budget at \$49,000 and Welland's cost was \$30,000. Sites have previously been discussed and that information is satisfactory for now.

9. **Business**

a) 9.2 Ryan Madill to bring report forward on WSIB claims

Ryan Madill brought forward a list of names in relation to Fire Fighters who are eligible to be memorialized. The list needs to be checked for correct spelling of names. Fire Fighter Joseph McNulty died December 1, 1931 and more information needs to be discovered on this as family has never been found.

The criteria for being memorialized is as follows:

1. Pre-January 1, 1960 – Line of Duty deaths that are proven through records i.e. burial, newspaper.
2. Presumptive Legislation Claims through WSIB as of January 1, 1960. Ryan Madill brought forward a list of names that relate to this.
3. Local 485 formed in 1919, St. Catharines Wards had volunteers before that date, if it is proven the volunteers died in the line of duty, they should be included.

Ryan Madill will research newspaper clippings and verify information.

b) 9.4 Ilyse Norton to report on possible City locations

Ilyse Norton, in conjunction with the Community, Recreation and Culture Services Committee brought forward ideas, maps and engineered drawings in relation to possible City locations. Their top 3 list is as follows:

1. **Fire Station 5, Martindale Rd.** – it was determined that there is green space available but not easy to get to and is a workplace so visitors may not feel comfortable.
2. **Fire Station 1, Geneva St.** – Green space in the triangular area of the property, it was discussed that the station may not be staying, a feasibility study is ongoing and we don't have a decision yet.
3. **City Hall, Church St.** – location to be determined and Ilyse will go back to the Public Art Committee and others to discuss options for this site. Concern was expressed regarding the potential need to relocate existing monuments.

Other possible site ideas were brought forward and discussed:

4. **Meridian Centre, 1 Ice Dogs Way** – near the VIP parking lot there is green space. This area may not be private enough.
5. **Race St. (near Caffé Gatti), beside the Performing Arts Centre** – there's a green space that may be a possibility. Ilyse will research this, she believes the engineering road work is complete for this area.

6. **The Rock pile – corner of St. Paul St. and Ontario St.** – Ilyse doesn't believe that this area will be available for use, she will inquire and report back.
7. **New Fire Services HQ, Location to be determined** – Council needs to decide if this is going forward based on the feasibility study. Concern was expressed over uncertainty and timing and potential to wait to decide on a location until the decision is made. It was noted that it would be extremely difficult to fundraise and seek donations for a memorial that would be built years in the future.
8. **Buchanan House – park area on Niagara St.** – Ilyse will follow-up on this location and report back.

Ilyse to follow up on options 3, 5, 6 and 8 and report back to the committee for the next meeting. Elected committee members to provide any insight/information (if available) on option 7.

10. **Date of next meeting**

All future meetings will be held the second Tuesday of each month at Fire Station 4, 427 Merritt Street at 4:30pm. Calendar invites have been sent.

Tuesday, April 7th, 2020 at Fire Station 4 at 4:30pm

11. **Motion to Adjourn**

That the Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial Task Force be adjourned at 6:12 pm.

Moved by Councillors Dodge and Deputy Upper

Carried