

Tinley Park Veteran's Commission

Minutes of the February 11, 2026

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 7:00 p.m. Housekeeping items for the good of the order were announced. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

P=Present / E=Excused / A=Absent

P - Dr. Doug Rasmussen, DC - Chairman

P - Roxane Tyssen-Secretary

A - Robert Bullard - US Sub Vets

P - Mark Ethridge

P - Chris Hansley-VFW Aux. Pres.

P - Norm Pestlin

A - Paul Windish

P - Fred Cagle – VFW Commander (ex-officio)

A - Mike Rowan, Commander Amer. Legion (ex-officio)

P - Colleen Sullivan, Trustee Liaison

A - Pat Carr, Staff Liaison

P - Robert Colby

P - Bruce Haffner

E - Jimmy Hunter

E - Georges Sanon

Minutes of the last meeting:

- Minutes from January 14, 2025 meeting were read. Chris Hansley made a motion to approve as amended. Norm Pestlin seconded, all approved. Minutes approved.

Remarks by Trustee Liaison:

Trustee Sullivan reported:

- The commission has a bench for the Benches on the Avenue. Mark Ethridge will be helping build it.
- The KIA memorial has been put out to bid. There is one company that has submitted its bid but the Village is hoping for at least one more before final decisions are made.
 - The final piece will be built into the current memorial at Veteran's Parkway
- A walkway around the equipment along Veteran's Parkway is still being discussed. Variations include a small parking lot.

Static Display for Veterans Parkway:

- No progress to report.

Education in Art in Public Places:

- Bruce Haffner will look into locations to place displays.

Correspondence:

- There was no correspondence to report.

Ongoing Business:

- Irish Day Parade:
 - Officer King will talk to the SGT so that the vet groups can disembark at the VFW and not at the Subway parking lot.

- Apple Chevrolet is loaning the commission 3 vehicles – red, white, and blue – to be driven by commissioners in the parade.
- Memorial Day:
 - A guest speaker has been confirmed. Virginia “Ginny” Narsete will speak about “HerStory”; the program will focus on women in the military.
 - A motion was made for a donation of \$1,500.00 to operationherstory.org which will the costs for one veteran to fly to Washington DC. Chris Hansley made the motion, Nick Suleyman seconded, the motion passed.
 - A motion was made for an honorarium for \$250.00 to the Tinley Park Community Band to play at the Memorial Day event. Chris Hansley made the motion, Steve Noodwang seconded. The motion passed.

New Business:

- Steve Noodwang has been appointed as a commissioner by the Mayor and Village Board; Nick Suleyman has been appointed as an associate commissioner.
- There is an offer for a trip to the Pritzker Museum in Kenosha, WI for interested commissioners. Details will be worked out at a later date.

ANY OTHER BUSINESSs:

REPORTS:

- Report from the VFW:
 - The fish fry will go from February 20 through April 3rd.
 - VOD candidate from the 16th district is going to Valley Forge for an opportunity to compete for the \$35K scholarship.
- VFW Aux:
 - April 18th blood drive.
 - Golf outing will be on August 1st at the Odyssey.
- American Legion:
 - There are two service officers present at the monthly meeting (1st Tuesday of the month). They assist veterans & widows with benefits.
 - The VOTP Police Department is holding their polar plunge at the Legion on February 28th.

Announcements:

- There were no additional announcements.

Public Comments:

- There was no public present.

Adjournment:

- Chairman Rasmussen asked for a motion to adjourn, Norm Pestlin made the motion, Chris Hansley seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 11, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the council chamber.