Tinley Park Veteran's Commission
October 14, 2026 Veteran's Commission Meeting
Minutes

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
E - Robert Bullard -US Sub Vets
P - Mark Ethridge
P - Chris Hansley-VFW Aux. Treasurer
P - Steve Noodwang
P - Georges Sanon
P - Paul Windish
P - Fred Cagle – VFW Commander (ex-officio)
A-Mike Rowan, Commander Amer. Legion (ex-officio)
E - Colleen Sullivan, Trustee Liaison
A - Pat Carr, Staff Liaison
P - Robert Colby
P- Bruce Haffner
P- Jimmy Hunter
P - Norm Pestlin
P – Nick Suleyman (Assoc. Commissioner)

Minutes of the last meeting:

- Minutes from the September 2026 meeting were read. There were two corrections. After discussions, Steve Noodwang made the motion to approve as amended, Bruce Haffner seconded, all approved. Minutes passed.

Remarks by Trustee Liaison:

- Nothing to report.

Static Display for Veterans Parkway:

- Fred Cagle stated that he has made a request for equipment and is still waiting to hear back from TACOM.
- The chairman mentioned that he does have an application for air force equipment and asked for one of the commissioners to take the lead on it.

Education in Art in Public Places:

- Bruce Haffner announced that the library will take the Hardenburg print.

Correspondence:

- There was no correspondence.

Ongoing Business:

- Veterans Day:
    - Roxane Tyssen will fill out the application for the event and make sure to request 30 chairs for the band.
    - Doug Rasmussen will also speak to Amanda in marketing about some of the other final details for the event.
    - Additional discussions regarding the event program were reviewed.

- All Service Breakfast:
    - A brief review of the event was discussed. Overall it was a successful event.
    - Doug Rasmussen asked the commissioners if they were comfortable asking for donations for this event. No one was objectionable to doing this.
- KIA Memorial:
    - Details of what the commission would like for the actual memorial were discussed. Mentioned was the Battlefield Cross and to make sure there is enough room to add names in the future.
    - Steve Noodwang brought up the discussions from last month's meeting as to where the actual location should be (which #8 on the map). Doug stated that he would be working with marketing on the location but the ultimate decision may be up to the park district as it will be located on park district property.
- Honorary Street Signs:
    - Roxane Tyssen handed out a draft of an ordinance that the veterans commission can use as a guide on how honorary street signs will be requested, paid for, etc.
    - The commissioners discussed the draft and changes they would like to see included.
    - How to pay for the signs was talked about as was providing the families with a copy of the sign.
    - Bruce Haffner provided a list of KIA soldiers from Tinley Park.

New Business:

- Potential events:
    - The chairman asked the commissioners to think about what possible events the commission can host that will help veterans.
    - Included in the discussions were providing resource tables, location, collaborative potential with other veteran's groups, etc.
    - Commander Cagle mentioned that the commission may want to get involved in doing a kind of stand-down for veterans.
    - November 20th there is a stand-down at the northwest armory, Fred Cagle will attend to check it out and report back.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- Nothing to report.

REPORTS:

- American Legion:
    - Recruits for Christmas have been requested. The Legion is on the list to host 50 cadets. The Legion is looking for a bus company to assist with transport.
    - Once approved, Great Lakes will send out a form and everyone will have to undergo a federal background check.
- VFW:
    - A request for 50 recruits has been made. The VFW uses a different bus company than the Legion does and will be sharing that information with the Legion.
    - The information about St. Julie's Thanksgiving for veterans has been distributed.
    - Cookies for Troops - the VFW donated $500 towards the event. Chris Hansley made a motion to donate $500 to Apple Chevrolet for cookies for the troops, Bob Colby seconded. All in favor, motion passed.
    - The Auxiliary has a blood drive on November 1, 2026.

Announcements:

- Georges Sanon provided handouts for the Manteno home that has items they are requesting.
- He also mentioned that lifetime National Parks Passes are available to veterans (only veterans, veteran has to be present if family members are using it).
- Georges also mentioned that S.A.V.E. training is available on November 19 at 6:30 p.m. for suicide prevention for veterans. It is a virtual event, and the link will be shared.
- November meeting – Reminder that the regular November meeting falls on Veterans Day. The commission will meet on November 4th instead. This will allow the commission to discuss any last minute details that need to be addressed before Veterans Day as well.

Public Comments:

- Nothing to report.

Adjournment:

- Chairman Rasmussen asked for a motion to adjourn, Jimmy Hunter made the motion, Chris Hansley seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 4, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the Kallsen Center.