

## **Metuchen Parade Commission**

April 11, 2022, 7:15PM

Attendees:

Maggy Cook, Rob Giegerich, Terry Kohl, Ellen Regan and Wendy Richards

### **Minutes**

- Motion to approve March meeting minutes from Terry.
- **Memorial Day Ceremony**
  - John met with Walter at the American Legion who had the following requests:
    - Memorial Park Ceremony to start at 11am
    - Parade to start at the American Legion
    - Chairs at the Ceremony
    - Help with the program
  - Commission members agreed that the Parade could be staged from Hasley parking lot so that it can start at the American Legion. It was suggested to end at the Plaza with a brief ceremony - the MHS band playing the Star Spangled Banner, RiseUp Chorus singing two songs and remarks from the Mayor, who would end with letting everyone know about the formal ceremony at the Park
  - Commission suggested Chief Irizzary for Grand Marshall and Walter for the Reviewing Officer
  - Rob will reach out to the MHS band director, Mr. Messenger, to confirm their participation in the ceremony (dueling Taps) and the Parade (march and play Star Spangled Banner at the Plaza)
  - Terry will confirm RiseUp chorus' participation to include a soloist at the Ceremony to sing God Bless America and the chorus to sing two songs at the Plaza
  - Maggy offered to join John at his next meeting with Walter
- **Memorial Day Parade**
  - Theme suggestions:
    - We Honor You or We Remember
    - Commission recommends dedicating the Parade to Mary Jessen
  - Logistics:
    - If staging in the Hasley parking lot, we will need to borrow cones from the fire department
    - Ellen will contact Fred Hall and request the reviewing and Plaza stands
  - Participants:
    - Registration Google form will be updated to include floats
    - Cars are needed for Grand Marshall and graduating seniors attending military school. Rob and Maggy offered their Jeeps. Wendy to also ask Bob Matlin, who runs the car shows.
    - It was suggested to reach out to John Skarbek, 100 year old resident, to see if he would like to participate
  - Art Contest
    - Terry will ask if the Art Council is willing to host the student submissions again this year

- Publicity
  - Banner space over Main Street has been approved. Once parade time is set, Ellen will work with Blue Parachute
  - Wendy suggested producing coffee sleeves publicizing the Parade for Cai's and Brewed Awakening
- Entertainment
  - Commission approved moving forward with bagpipers, Fred Lehotay, Banjo Rascals and stilt walkers
  - Ellen will confirm the Fred Lehotay ragtime band comes with their own vehicle