

Metuchen Parade Commission

Monday, January 9, 2023

Attendees: Maggy Cook, Rob Giegerich, Bernie Hetzel, Denis Kane, Terry Kohl, Ellen Regan and Wendi Richards

Minutes

Tree Lighting

- Plan for better lighting in Santa's tent and more clearly defined line; consider buying stantions
- Santa's sleigh needs to be repaired or a new one built. This could be a good project for an Eagle Scout. Rob and Bernie will ask Lenny Druminski if he knows of anyone that can take this on.

Menorah Lighting

- No stage is needed.
- Sound is a must.
- Plan for 100 people, as we ran out of hot chocolate planning for 50 people.
- It should always be the first night of Hannukah, which this year is Thursday, December 7

Memorial Day Parade

- The Parade will be Monday, May 29 at 10am.
- Commission agreed on the theme, Coming Home.
- The body of Staff Sgt. Michael Uhrin will be brought home to Metuchen this Spring after being identified after 70 years as a POW/MIA. Mayor Busch shared that plans are underway with the Department of Defense to honor Staff Sgt. Uhrin in connection with Memorial Day.
 - Denis will reach out to the Mayor to learn more about this and ask for a contact at the DoD.
- Think of ways in which we can incorporate the American Doll of the Year into the parade
- Maggy offered to reach out to other towns who host Memorial Day parades for ideas, i.e., Milltown
- Ellen will reach out to the school art teachers providing them information on the contest

Memorial Day Ceremony

- Maggy and Denis offered to reach out to Walter at the American Legion
- Need to determine whether or not the Grand Marshall needs to have served
- Program last year was very well done; need to find a replacement for Jamie Schleck who did a great job as the MC
- Ask DPW to provide more chairs at Memorial Park
- Parade Commission will provide water and American flags to hand out at the ceremony