

West Suburban Veterans District – April 25, 2022

Location: Westwood COA

Present: Chris Coleman, Kate Fitzpatrick, Leon Gaumont, and Meghan Jop

Also present: Nancy Blanchard, Sarada Kalpee, and Sally Rose

Call to order: Meeting called to order at 3:20pm.

Business:

1. Citizen Speak

None

2. Minutes

The Board voted (4-0-0) to approve the minutes of the November 3, 2021 meeting.

3. Director's Update

This quarter's update included WSVD assisting surviving spouses and veterans with pressing matters such as: tax abatement in Wellesley and partnering with Newton Wellesley in supporting a Weston veteran with placing him in a long term care facility.

Meghan asked about plans for Memorial Day Observances. Lisa Yanakakis and Rebecca Lovey are covering Weston, Rich Turner is doing Wayland, Michelle Miller and Committee is covering Westwood, Jason Kravetz is handling Needham, and Joe Oliveri is in charge of Wellesley.

Chris said that Westwood has received their Purple Heart Signs to be posted at seven entrances into town. Meghan said she would check with DPW regarding signs needed for Wellesley.

During Sarada's deployment, Nancy will be the acting director. She will inform the Board if she feels she needs a part-time VSO to assist her. In the meantime Sally will step in fulfilling additional tasks in her role as the WSVD Administrative Assistant.

4. Old/New Business

The Board briefly discussed the role and stipend of Graves and Ceremonial Officers for two of the towns within the district. Stipends were analyzed in order to provide another town a budget snapshot should they consider selecting a Graves/Ceremonial Officer.

No date was set for the next meeting. Nancy will send out an email to establish a meeting date and location.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.