

West Suburban Veterans District – September 12th 2018

Location: Weston Town Hall

Present: Chris Coleman, Elizabeth Doucette, Kate Fitzpatrick, Blythe Robinson, and Donna VanderClock

Also present: Sarada Kalpee, Sally Rose

Call to order: Meeting called to order at 4:10 pm.

Business:

1. Citizen Speak

None

2. Minutes

The Board voted (4-0-0) to approve the minutes of the April 23rd, 2018 meeting.

3. Outreach Events

Ms. Kalpee has been away in Wisconsin for the last month for training. She mentioned no Outreach Events that have occurred since the last meeting.

Ms. Kalpee asked what day and time each community wanted to host the Veterans Day Observance. Usually it occurs at 11:00 a.m. on November 11th. This year that would be Sunday and Mr. Wohler, from Weston, said that time would conflict with his church obligations. Ms. VanderClock said perhaps Weston could hold the ceremony at 1:00 p.m. The other 3 communities were going to decide when to hold their Veterans Day Observances, but the consensus was it would be more respectful to do it on Sunday, the 11th as opposed to Monday, the 12th.

4. Director's Update

Ms. Kalpee has been asked by Congressman Kennedy's office to participate in a panel to select five high school students who have applied to all five military academies. She will be starting this process on Monday, September 17th.

Regarding future military obligations Ms. Kalpee is pending another 3 weeks of training starting Jan 31st and may possibly be deployed as early as May 2019. It is necessary for the Board to hire a VSO to serve the district during Ms. Kalpee's prolonged absences. Mr. Coleman asked if the position should be temporary or permanent? Ms. Robinson said she needed to talk with HR. Mr. Coleman also asked about the health insurance and wanted to make sure enough funds would be available to hire a fulltime VSO that was on the District's health insurance. Ms. Rose said that the FY19 amount included a fulltime VSO and a portion of Ms. Rose's health insurance, assuming FY18 rates. Ms. Robinson said she would check with HR to see what amount would be needed if the individual chose the most expensive health plan and HSA.

Of the FY18 Carryforward amount of \$55,519, Ms. Rose asked the Board to approve transferring \$40,000 to be proportionately allocated to each town's CH115 account. The remaining \$15,519 would be reserved for further appropriations. Prior to the meeting, Ms. Rose had distributed a FY20 Budget template to be completed. Because Needham's bylaws require budget submissions be done in October Ms. Fitzpatrick said they would level fund the FY20 Budget. Ms. Robinson said she would send out a proposed FY20 budget in December.

Ms. VanderClock is retiring and the Board wished her well and commented on the duration of her service to Weston. T A retirement party for Ms. VanderClock is planned for Wednesday, September 26th. The newly appointed town Manager, Mr. Leon Gaumond came in at the conclusion of the meeting.

5. Old/New Business

The Board did not set a date for the next meeting
The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.