

**Somerville Veterans' Commission on Monuments, Memorials & Dedications
(VetCMMD) Meeting - *HYBRID***



KATJANA BALLANTYNE
MAYOR



COMMISSIONERS

Kevin Dickinson
Thomas Gorman
James Marques
Ellen Sullivan
Jodi Vachon
^Chair – Tom White

November 6th Meeting Minutes *(approved 12/11/2025)*

Meeting Date: Thursday, November 6th, 2025, Time: 4:30p – 5:30p EST

Location: *HYBRID at Central Library – 79 Highland Avenue, Somerville

Members Present:

^=non-voting member

Kevin Dickinson, Tom Gorman(Zoom), James Marques, Ellen Sullivan, *^Tom White-Chair(Zoom)*

Members Absent: Jodi Vachon

1. Meeting was **Called to Order** at **4:34pm** ***Adjourned at 5:13pm***
2. **Prior Meeting Minutes:** ***Motion*** to approve 10/02/2025 MINUTES by JMarques, 2nd simultaneously by KDickinson & TGorman ***APPROVED.***
3. **Meeting Motions, Actions & Summary:**
 - a) **Meeting Motions:**
 - **None**
 - b) **Actions: *The board will:*** 1)will finalize plan for next Heroes Salute Dedication ceremony 2)continue planning Veterans Day/Week 3)monitor progress of Korean and Vietnam Memorials-Central Hill Project 4)will track progress of FY26 Funding Cycle for Veterans Cemetery Project
 - c) **Summary:**

Hero Square Dedications:

 - No New applications
 - three Heroes being dedicated for 11/13 Ceremony; dry run scheduled at high school after meeting

Monuments/Memorials:

- Full application submitted as well as presentation on 10/22 completed for the Community Preservation Act (CPA) FY26 Funding Cycle for Veterans Cemetery and selected monuments within city.
- Massachusetts State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB) FY2026 Veterans Heritage Grant Application for Somerville Veterans Heritage Documentation & Digital Preservation project: Deadline 11/11/2025 (*matching grant using department monument/memorials budget line*)

Events:

- 11/10 – 11/15** Veterans Day 2025 Activities planning:
 - 11/11: 11a – Veterans Day Ceremony at Dilboy Post 529
2p – Milk Row Cemetery
 - 11/13: Heroes Salute Dedication Ceremony at Somerville High School Auditorium at 6:30pm **plans finalized with assigned roles/tasks*
- 250th Celebration! (Marines/Navy Birthday)** November 6th 6:30p at Medford American Legion
- Next monthly Veterans Breakfast** at Highlander Café 11/20/2025 9-1030a

Discussions:

- *Open to guests/public comments: NONE
- *New - ADA accessibility for the Korean War Memorial **site visit by commissioners & staff; follow up with guidance from Accessibility Services Division & Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development(OSPCD)*

Next monthly meeting: 12/4 -REMOTE

4. **Motion to Adjourn** by KDickinson, 2nd by TGorman. **Adjourned at 5:13pm**