



TOWN OF GRAFTON
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**TRUSTEES FOR SOLDIERS
AND SAILORS MEMORIALS**

Andrew Kjellberg, President
William Cutler, Vice-president
Kenneth Sherman, Secretary
Peter Shay
William Drago

Meeting Minutes, May 5, 2016

The Trust met this day at Memorial Hall, convening at 10:07 AM. Four members were present, as was Adam Costello, Veterans' Agent. Mr. Drago was absent.

The article for Town Meeting requesting \$2,500 for FY2017 has been approved by the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee. It will be voted upon at Town Meeting on May 9, 2016. Mr. Sherman will stand and offer the Trust budget article at the Annual Town Meeting.

Mr. Kjellberg updated the Trustees regarding the cemetery grave marker and flag project. He reported that the survey of Pinegrove has been completed and that Fairview is almost done. Next to be surveyed will be St. Philip's and Riverside. The families of buried veterans will have final say on whether the graves of their relatives will be veteran-marked or not. One grave is for a member of the French Expeditionary Force and another for a member of the British Expedition, both from World War II. The Trust would like to have appropriate French and British flags attached to these graves and graves of other veterans who served in foreign militaries.

The Trust wondered if the Grand Army of the Republic – a group of Civil War veterans – had any organization in town as there are some Civil War vets buried in several mass graves in town.

The ceremony for Petty Officer Dohlus on May 17 is coming together. The ceremony will mark his 100th birthday. Electrician's Mate First Class Dohlus went down aboard submarine USS Cisco in 1943. Mr. Kjellberg volunteered to ask the Town Administrator to have May 17, 2016, declared Petty Officer Dohlus Day.

The Board voted unanimously to send a letter to the Board of Selectmen reminding them that the

veterans' memorials and public artifacts are under the Trust's jurisdiction and thus cannot be moved or altered without the Trust's approval as the Street Scapes Project proceeds.

Veterans' Agent Costello asked that he be kept in the loop regarding purchase of flags and grave markers so as not to duplicate spending or memorial activities. Mr. Costello expects to receive about 11 gross of grave flags and approximately 150 markers by May 13, 2016. The Boy Scouts have been helpful in marking graves on weekends as time allows.

Mr. Costello mentioned that the Assabet High School Junior ROTC needs additional volunteer instructors. Mr. Sherman will follow this up.

The meeting adjourned at 11:11 AM.

Respectfully,

Kenneth B. Sherman
Secretary