



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

Andy Kjellberg, President
Bill Cutler, Vice-president
Ken Sherman, Secretary
Peter Shay
Bill Drago

MINUTES

The Trust's monthly meeting was held on March 3, 2016, at the Dunkin Donuts Shop on Route 122 in Grafton. Peter Shay was absent.

Reorganization. The Trust membership voted to install Mr. Kjellberg as president and Mr. Cutler as vice-president. Mr. Sherman had already been voted in as secretary.

Graves Markers. The project to ensure that all veterans' graves in Grafton are properly marked with a flag holder and service placard is ongoing. Mr. Kjellberg is leading this effort. The cost of obtaining necessary plastic markers/holders has been estimated at approximately \$6.55 each and the total number needed to ensure all 1,400 veterans' graves in town is being estimated. Mr. Kjellberg, with the help of the town Boy Scout troop, is completing this survey. Mr. Kjellberg will also approach St. Philip's Cemetery to get permission to walk it to locate veterans' graves and to log their GPS positions. The cemetery is owned by the Worcester Diocese of the Catholic Church and is not under the authority of Grafton. It was decided that veterans' graves from before World War I will not be included in the marker/flag project.

Finances. The Trust discussed the fact that the town has appropriated no money to accomplish any of the services for which the state has created such town trusts for veterans. It was voted that the Trust approach Town Administrator McInerney, American Legion Post 92, and VFW Post 1492 to solicit money. It was also voted unanimously to consider sending a request to the Finance Committee to add to the spring town meeting an article requesting the sum of \$1,500 (fifteen hundred dollars) be raised by town vote for the Trust's operation in 2017. Mr. Kjellberg will approach the town veterans' agent about money to be available to the Trust while Mr. Drago will approach the Town Administrator regarding the issue. Mr. Sherman will create a proposed article for the spring town meeting, to then be presented to the Finance Committee. Among the issues involved is the fact that the veterans' agent is available in Grafton just two days a week while veterans' issues may occur at any time. Mr. Sherman will approach the town's American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars posts.

World War II Veteran. Mr. Kjellberg noted that the grave of a World War II veteran buried at St. Philip's Cemetery will receive a marker to be placed this spring and suggested that all Grafton World War II veterans be invited to attend the ceremony. Mr. Sherman volunteered to submit a newspaper announcement once arrangements have been finalized.

Location. The April meeting of the Trust will be held in Room E, second floor, at Town Hall and subsequent meetings may also be held there.

Respectfully,

Kenneth B. Sherman
Secretary

* Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 41, section 105, establishes the membership requirements and duties for Trustees for Soldiers and Sailors Memorials