

**Town of Winchester  
Soldiers' Monument Commission**

P.O. Box 322 • Winsted, CT 06098 • [www.SoldiersMonumentWinsted.org](http://www.SoldiersMonumentWinsted.org)

**Mission Statement**

*The commission recognizes the historical importance and aesthetic value of the Soldiers' Monument, a symbolic icon of the town of Winchester. Our mission is to protect, preserve, and enhance this nationally-recognized landmark while providing a clean and safe park for all residents and visitors.*

**MINUTES**

**For the Monthly Meeting**

**October 5, 2016**

**Held in the third-floor conference room, Winchester Town Hall, 7 p.m.**

**Virginia Shultz – Chairman  
Noreen Marchand – Vice-Chairman  
Deborah Kessler- Secretary  
Lynn Kessler –Treasurer  
Jack Bourque**

**Steve Dew  
Sheila Sedlack  
Steven Silvester  
Douglas Werner**

**1. Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 7:05 P.M. by Virginia Shultz-Charette, Chairman.

**2. Roll Call**

Steven Silvester, Deborah Kessler, Jack Bourque and Douglas Werner were not in attendance.

**3. Public Comment**

None

**4. Approval of Secretary's Minutes**

The minutes for the September 2016 meeting were approved. The motion was made by Lynn and seconded by Sheila. Unanimous approval. They will be emailed to Town Hall per procedure.

**5. Approval of Treasurer's Report**

Lynn presented the treasurer's report. Balance in the budget accounts is \$5281.87. The balance in the restoration account is \$78,606.64. The savings account balance is \$3488.31. The report was approved by the commission. The motion was made by Steve Dew and seconded by Noreen Marchand. Unanimous approval.

## **6. Communications**

Virginia received a personal thank-you from Highlander Transition Academy for giving them a tour of the monument in September.

## **7. Old Business**

### 2016 Cemetery Walk Update

Due to Deb's absence we will discuss any last-minute details of the walk via email.

### Fundraising projects

2016 fundraising letter campaign was mailed from Goulet on September 30. Virginia will send out some fundraising letters to descendants of those listed on the monument and others associated with the building of the monument.

### Transfer of \$30K to restoration account

Discussed during the Treasurer's Report. No new information available. Will continue to ask since we need this for our next project on the restoration to-do list.

### Roof Update

The roof project had not been started because the weather had been unfavorable but will be starting next week.

### Possible patching to defer repointing

We are definitely considering the possibility of patching since the deterioration of the mortar between the stones is continuing to be one of the chief reasons for water damage in the monument. This is a continuing discussion.

### Security signs

Signs have been received by the town and will be installed shortly by Public Works.

### Removal of dead tree

Public works has agreed to remove a dead tree near the monument prior to the spring.

### December celebration at monument

We are considering having a Carol Sing at the monument the weekend of December 10. Possibly on Friday, December 9 at 6:30 P.M. Noreen will be attempting to get Gilbert and a church choir to assist. Deb had previously suggested that we find some people in Victorian era "Caroler Costume" to add flavor to the event.

### SoMo volunteers/Friends group

This discussion will ensue after the Cemetery Walk has been completed.

## **8. New Business**

### Next renovation project? Repointing? Electrical conduit?

We discussed various projects, most contingent on receiving the \$30,000 still owed us by the town. Preferably, temporarily patching the mortar and working on rewiring the monument through someplace other than through the window. The plans call for digging under the monument, however, we need to find out if it could be feasible to

rewire through the wall, no higher than a few feet up on the monument. This needs to be addressed since many members were not on the commission when the plans were drawn up.

Special fundraising for windows? Use funds from Klebe for window?

Virginia suggested that the money from Klebe could be used as the start of a public campaign to raise money from corporations, wealthy patrons, etc. to “gift a window” rather like Victorian churches raised funds for stained glass windows. Plaques could be installed acknowledging the gift. She will contact Mike Fortuna to find out the cost per window. Eventually, we could go to the Friends of Main Street for suggestions/help on how to proceed.

**9. Adjournment**

A motion was made by Sheila, seconded by Steve to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 P.M. Unanimous approval.

Respectfully Submitted  
Virginia Shultz-Charette, Chairman