

Trustees of War Memorials Meeting Minutes

Day, Date and Time: Tuesday, September 30, 2025 at 6:00pm

Place of Meeting: City Hall Auditorium, 62 Friend St.

1. Call to Order/ Roll Call – Mayor Gove called to order at 6:02 pm.

Present: Mayor Kassandra Gove, Paul Cote (Paul), Paul Jancewicz (Jancy), Ski Iworsky, Tom Champion

Absent:, James DeMars

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Gove read mission: The "Board," shall have charge and control of the construction of any memorial in Amesbury commemorating the services and sacrifices of soldiers, sailors, marines, and airmen who are veterans of war, or persons who have rendered military service for the commonwealth in time of war, and the Board shall have custody and care of such memorials after their construction.

3. Public Comment – no items for public comment

4. Approval of Minutes

June 24, 2025 meeting minutes were provided for review by the board

- Motion to approve minutes as presented by Paul Cote
- Seconded by Tom
- **Unanimous approval 5-0**

July 8, 2025 meeting minutes were provided for review by the board

- Motion to approve minutes as presented by Paul Cote
- Seconded by Jancy
- **Unanimous approval 5-0**

5. Financials – reported by Victoria

- There has been a slight decrease in our accounts due to bills paid from both the Trust fund and RESTOR accounts.
- Trust Fund as of 8/31/25 has a principal balance of \$3,000, interest balance of \$13969.85 for a balance of \$16,969.85. This is a slight decrease from our last reported balance, due to the paid flagpole invoice.
- RESTOR account balance is \$15,625.15, having spent the \$5,000 of the Grant Award received on the flagpole invoice.

6. Veterans' Heritage Grant Program

Project Update – Franco American Memorial Flagpole

- update by Paul Cote, the contractor has had some delays but will be working to get the flagpole power washed and painted before Veterans Day.
- Ski asked if it needed to be sandblasted, Paul replied that he'll be doing a power washing and further paint stripping if necessary.
- Tom asked if there was any need for volunteer help, Paul replied that he doesn't believe so, as the contractor will be bringing a crew with a bucket truck to take care of it; they will

- be trimming the branches around the flag to ensure the flag isn't damaged as well.
- There was discussion with Mayor Gove and Paul about the grant funds remaining, the \$5000 of the grant has been spent as well as some of the 'matching' funds from the trust balance. So when complete, this will ultimately be paid with our matching funds.

Volunteer hours

- We will have way more that we need and will revisit tracking to compile a report. Paul stated he's been keeping track of his hours as he works on these projects and contacts the contractors.

7. Eagle Scout Project

- Aiden Cusick from the Boy Scouts came to give an update on his Eagle Scout project at Sumner Goldsmith Park. He is anticipating the Boy Scouts will approve his project this week at their upcoming meeting. Aiden met with Mayor Gove at the park and identified the places for the benches. They were accompanied by Henry Richard who will be doing the digging of the benches/concrete. Aiden is anticipating the slabs will be donated by Shea Concrete. Once he's approved, he will also be requesting donations of the lumber from Lowe's and the hardware from Amesbury Industrial.
- Mayor Gove spoke about the placement of the benches, one facing the memorial and the others across the park in nice areas to provide seating for visitors.
- Paul asked about an estimated completion date, Aiden believed that it would be done end of October/beginning of November. Paul asked if he could keep in mind the Veterans Day (Nov 11) as a hopeful date of completion.
- Jancy reiterated that he would be happy to help and that Aiden should reach out if there are any requests for the trustee's help in building or installation.

8. Maintenance Updates/Additional Needs

Wrapping/Winterization Quote

- Mayor Gove called a contact that she had to wrap the cannon at the Franco-American Memorial. He proposed doing it for \$200. She feels that it is worth being done and we should move forward with getting it wrapped. Paul and Jancy both agree that out of respect to the work of Mr. Bartley, and the work done to restore the memorial, that we should wrap it to maintain the restored work.
- There was discussion regarding whether or not the wrap used needs to be saved for reuse after the season, Mayor Gove will ask. Ski asked if it would be a good idea to schedule the shrink wrap before the power washing of the flagpole, Paul believes that the contractor will contain overspray. Jancy offered a canvas tarp if needed for temporary coverage. Paul and Mayor Gove can coordinate the two projects timelines.
 - Motion to approve moving forward with this quote, to spend \$200 on the wrapping of the cannon from Paul
 - Seconded by Tom
 - **Unanimous approval 5-0**

War Memorial Inventory List

- Mayor Gove shared the list that we have internally regarding the memorials which are under the custody of the board and wanted to revisit some of the missing dates of when restorations were done last. Jancy mentioned that Thorton Square Plaque has a

rededication and had submitted a 2016 news article with the same, we do have that note on file. He also stated that the Spanish American War Cannon was a more recently restored monument that hasn't kept as well and is rusting, however there has been some disagreement with the cemetery commission over whose purview this is in.

9. Jancy announced to the group that he is tendering his resignation to the Trustees. He is very grateful for this group, but it is time for him to move on. Mayor Gove stated that it's been a pleasure to serve with Jancy, especially as a former student of his. Jancy stated that he's not trying to bow out entirely, but he's ready to focus on other projects.

Paul said his thanks for contributing the history and all he's done for the Trustees. Mayor Gove requested for his resignation in writing and will work to fill the seat on the board.

10. Set Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is booked for November 18, 2025 at 6pm in the City Hall Auditorium.

11. Adjourn

- Motion to adjourn made by Ski
 - Seconded by Jancy
 - **Unanimous approval 4-0**
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- The meeting was adjourned at 6:29 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Victoria Feger, Executive Assistant to the Mayor
Created on: 9/30/2025
Approved on: 11/18/2025