

G.A.R. Memorial Hall Board of Trustees

Minutes

October 14, 2014, 5:41pm.

National Guard Armory Skyline Drive, Room D

**Present:** Daniel McAulliffe, Reynaldo Rodriguez and Tim Boucher.

Minutes from last meeting were unanimously approved.

**Old Business:**

- 1) Dan McAulliffe represented the Board of Trustees and City of Worcester during a trip to Plymouth, North Carolina. There, Mr. McAulliffe presented the Key to the City to the mayor of Plymouth, Brian Roth. Mr. McAulliffe showed pictures of the successful trip where the bell of the C.S.S. Albemarle and captured C.S.A flags are on display. All major artifacts remain under the control of the Board with an agreement with Plymouth, North Carolina that if they are not displayed would be sent back to Worcester.

**New Business:**

- 1) Chairman McAulliffe met with City Manager Edward Augustus in regards to contributing funds to assist the renovation of the Soldiers & Sailors Monument located on the Common. Secretary Reynaldo Rodriguez made the motion to utilize the trust fund for the project of reconditioning the Soldiers & Sailors Monument. The Board voted unanimously to use the G.A.R. trust fund to refurbish the monument.
- 2) The Board discussed taking part in the process of selecting a suitable vendor in order to do the work of reconditioning the monument. Mr. McAulliffe agreed to meet with the necessary people in order to get the vendor selected and to begin the process as soon as possible.
- 3) The Board discussed the hope that the monument would be completed in 2015 in order to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of the Civil War.
- 4) Mr. McAulliffe outlined what would be needed in order to have a successful rededication ceremony. He suggested following the initial ceremony as much as possible and to utilize the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War as they have experience and their organization participated in the original dedication of the monument. The following was to be taken into account:
  - a. It needs to be done in 2015 in order to hit the 150<sup>th</sup>.
  - b. Invite City Officials to participate
  - c. Invite Worcester public school children to participate.
  - d. Invite all the high school ROTC programs.
  - e. Utilize re-enactment units especially in infantry and artillery and band.

- f. Locate and invite descendants of GAR Post 10 members and Worcester civil war relatives.
- 5) Reynaldo Rodriguez suggested that a Civil War living history be set up on the common during the event as an educational tool. Further as part of the ceremony, Mr. Rodriguez suggested that cards with the name of a person on the monument be handed out for those who participate to read out loud.
- 6) Mr. McAullife pointed out that the Board needs to take into account the logistics of the event. He proposed two possible routes. One could start at an assembly area at the Library's parking lot. The group can march down Church Street to the monument. Another possible route would be to stage at Lincoln Square and march a parade down Main Street with the civil war units and everyone participating in the ceremony to the common. Both routes must take into account costs such as police details.

Nothing else was discussed and the meeting closed at 6:22pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Reynaldo Rodriguez

Secretary, G.A.R. Memorial Hall Board of Trustees