

York Maine Committee for Veterans Affairs
Meeting Minutes
6pm, Tuesday August 26, 2025
York Town Hall

Meeting Notes Aug 26, 2025 York CVA

- 1) Members present : Tom, Jimmy, Wade, Alan, Don, John, Brian McLoughlin (new member to be sworn in)
- 2) Tom Opened the meeting at 6:00 PM
- 3) The Purple Heart Ceremony was discussed, and the following items were of significance
 - a. The YCVA should do a better job of promoting the event.
 - b. The need for an electronic Burgle for Taps was highlighted but for the moment we think a YHS student option is better.
 - c. We are already approved for next year's event in the Reserve Park.
 - d. All agreed the speaker this year was very impactful and we should continue the trend next year.
 - e. YCVA should have guides (people/sandwich boards) to direct people down the paved path to an easier walk to the viewing area.
- 4) PNSY outreach
 - a. Wade updated all on the changes in Command structure in the yard that has been slowing down response.
 - b. Tom has taken the lead in contacting Public Affairs to have a meeting to discuss York hosting another sub.
 - c. Per Tom's discussion, the Town Officials approve of the effort and the YCVA has

approved it. However, the timing is dependent on when the next series of subs will

arrive and what the “Town Host” list looks like when the North Dakota leaves port.

5) Freedom Monument

- a. The Monument has arrived at the York PD and is in storage.
- b. There was brief discussion on erecting it out front as a temporary placement but that was quickly obviated.
- c. Final resting place is still at the current Soldier's monument location within the Maine DOT plans. This now rests in the State DOT schedule and approval.

6) Trunk or Treat

- a. Alan gave an overall view of the event and timing.
- b. This gave rise to a quick discussion on “mission creep”, ie the York CVA becoming involved with projects that come from individual members involvement in other organizations. (ie WAA, Harley Mason Reserve Flag ceremony, Flag Day, Honor Flight , Vet 2 Vet etc.)
- c. While not a problem since all are considered positive community events, the limited personal levels have stretched us thin at times. No changes now are anticipated but we will keep a watch on them.
- d. Don them presented a copy of the Budget and a copy of the Committee Charter to support our discussion (both attached in the data package)

7) Veterans Day/Week

- a. Norma's Breakfast will be supported for Town of York Veterans and their spouse/caregiver. This must be reinforced in the advertising (pre and at the door). The Altrusia organization will again be helping but we do not plan a questionnaire this year.
- b. Wade updated what we had done in the past at each school and why.
- c. There have been personnel changes at each school so their requirements may have changed.
- d. John volunteered to contact them, and Wade will pass over his contact list to John
- e. Don mentioned the Fife and Drum Corp playing at the Middle School again and why they want to perform at no charge. We agree it's a great opportunity for them but that the coordination is between the Fife and Drum organization and the School administrators.

8) York CVA Priority List

- a. Tom went over the Questionnaire and responses.
- b. The Committee reviewed the recommendation and approved the items and prioritization.

9) Relocation of Monthly meeting

- a. Wade moved that the Monthly meeting return to the Police Training room/Jimmy seconded.
- b. After confirmation of the possibility with the Police, we will adjust our Website and announce to the public.
- c. York CVS voted all in favor.

10) Other items discussed

a. York Veterans Support Decals were approved with the change
(remove Businesses with

Town of York). Initial cost was from Bullshirt of 125 4" size for \$530.
(We are waiting for
Scott to get another quote.)

b. Memorial Day parade and Speaker. Jimmy is already working on
next year's presenter

and we should plan to promote the ceremony as well as the parade.

c. Don brought a request he had received from a veteran's wife to have
a ceremony for

her deceased husband in 1 st Parish. Her requirements are for a
military type of funeral

which is more in the arena of 1 st Parish, Funeral Director and Maine
National Guard who

send in the appropriate team. Don to pass info on to Tom for a
response.

d. Don mentioned there is a series of monument tours in York Village
scheduled for Sept

10 or 17 th , depending on the weather, at 6:00 PM. It will also be held
on Nov 11th

Veterans Day.

e. Wade mention a potential Post 56 Veterans coffee and donuts quiet
session project that

follows along the Maine Vet2Vet programs. (see attached) Still in its
development

stage but the York CVA may be asked to help support the weekly
sessions , if they have
any traction.

f. Brian MacLaughlin introduced himself to the Committee. He was an
Army paratrooper,

part of the Golden Knights demo team at one point. He is returning to
York after many

years away. He was welcomed back by the Committee, and he volunteered to take over the Monument Inspection and Maintenance duty (working with Parks and Rec)