



**Town of West Hartford
Commission on Veterans' Affairs**

December 12, 2023

West Hartford Town Hall, Room 407

Minutes

1. Call to Order - Secretary Raider called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.
2. Roll Call – Secretary Raider explained that Mr. Donnelly had resigned due to other commitments and that Ms. Bakari was not able to attend the meeting due to illness. Ms. Davidoff was absent due to another commitment.

Committee members I. Bowes, M. Hart, J. Keleher, R. Knoll, J. Mele, and A. Raider were recorded as present. P. Harrell was in attendance as a guest.

3. Approval of Minutes from October 17, 2023 – Mr. Hart made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Knoll. Motion passed unanimously.
4. Review progress and assign duties for veteran mailing and 2024 resource fair – The members discussed various components of the upcoming resource fair planned for May 11, 2024. Agencies invited to attend include the following: CT Dept. of Veteran Affairs, CT Veterans Legal Center, West Hartford Human Services, West Hartford Assessor, Red Cross, American Legion, and others. Ms. Bowes noted that the Town Hall Auditorium was reserved for that date. Mr. Knoll will ask the Town for assistance with the mailing and cleaning up the mailing list.
5. American Legion Update – Mr. Harrell provided a brief update on Legion activities.
6. Other Business – Secretary Raider reported that he would be resigning as a member following this meeting. The members present thanked Mr. Raider for his lengthy and dedicated service to the Commission and the West Hartford veterans' community. Mr. Raider explained that with his and Mr. Donnelly's resignation, the Commission would have two vacancies.

Mr. Hart stated that he would be willing to serve as a co-chair with Ms. Bakari or as secretary for a trial period. Mr. Knoll also stated that he would be willing to serve as co-chair. Secretary Raider noted that it would be important to add the Election of Officers to the next meeting agenda.

7. Adjournment – Secretary Raider adjourned the meeting at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew W. Hart, Member