



**Sandy Hook Permanent Memorial Commission  
Newtown Municipal Center, Council Chamber  
3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT**

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE PERMANENT  
MEMORIAL COMMISSION

The Sandy Hook Permanent Memorial Commission held a special meeting on Monday, April 30, 2018 at the Newtown Municipal Center, Council Chamber, 3 Primrose Street, Newtown. First Selectman Rosenthal called the meeting to order at 7:05pm and began with a moment of silence.

**PRESENT:** First Selectman Rosenthal, Joann Bacon, Brian Engel, Pat Llodra, Dan Krauss, Sarah Middeleer, Agni Pavilidou Kyprianou, Alan Martin, Tricia Pinto, Donna Van Waalwijk

**ABSENT:** Joanne Brunetti

**ALSO PRESENT:** Bob Mitchell, one member of the public and one member of the press.

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:** Mr. Martin moved to accept the minutes of April 12, 2018. Ms. Van Waalwijk seconded. All in favor

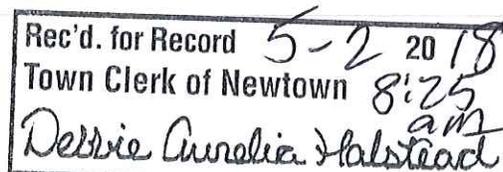
**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** **Richmond Jones**, 1 Obtuse Road, Hawleyville said he viewed all the design proposals, feels all have a corporate feeling that don't send a strong message. He submitted a design that he hoped the community would have an opportunity to view and expressed disappointment that his proposed design wasn't carried to into the top thirteen. He believes the memorial park should be built by the community and have a learning center with an auditorium. Mr. Jones feels he offered a legitimate proposal and asked the commission to reconsider his design.

**FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:**

**CHAIRMAN FOR COMMISSION:** Mr. Martin nominated Dan Krauss as Chairman of the Sandy Hook Permanent Memorial Commission. Ms. Pavilidou Kyprianou seconded. The commission members thanked and congratulated Mr. Krauss. Mr. Krauss is humbled and honored to serve in this capacity. Chairman tasks were delegated to the commission.

**FEEDBACK FROM COMMUNITY ON PHASE I-B DESIGNS:** The community feedback was extremely varied, showing how difficult it is to narrow down to 3-5 designs.

**DECISION ON DESIGNS FOR PHASE II:** The core memorial is the critical part of the memorial. Conversations with designers will include modification of attributes. There was discussion on whether meetings with designers be in public or in executive session. Anything proprietary can be discussed in executive session. All voting takes place in public. The commission discussed their individual choices for the top 3-5 designs, informally deciding on **SH37, SH240, SH108 and SH233.** SH37 was one of the families' favorite designs. Mr. Mitchell said there are major grade changes required in the design; the island will not support the growth of the tree. The pathways would need to be simplified. This design would be expensive but the commission could discuss modifications with the designer. The commission felt **SH240**



was sensitively done, there is calmness, shaded area and a good use of the land. It was careful and thoughtful. The water feature, with stone when drained, is a nice aspect. **SH108** has very nice stone walls, is serene but plantings need to be considered. The memorial aspect is quite large, has movement to it with weaving back and forth and feels more private. The victims are represented in an individual manner. There is concern about what the plantings and water features will look like in the distant future and how the features will be maintained. SH279 is a simple design with nature like components that works with the land without looking forced on to the property. This could be beautiful with trees along the path and plantings. The wall looks unending without landscaping. The one story façade left some commission members with an uncomfortable feeling. SH141 leaves the ponds unchanged and separate from the memorial. The wall symbolizes weight and seriousness. There was feeling the large bodies of water should be reduced. It is a formal design in a country setting; beautiful, but urban. SH179 uses the native stone walls, is calm, has a skywalk and the space is well used. The main memorial component is compressed and too casual. The wall faces the parking lot. **SH233** has to have the ability to visit the memorial separately from the void as some do not want to experience the void. The design is profound and doesn't paper over the tragedy. The design is a good use of the site but lacks a specific memorial. One commissioner said it brings dark feelings and agreed there is a lacking of memorial. None of the commission members chose SH102. SH203 cannot be built as shown as documented. SH147 had individual areas but the overlook property was unused. Following the discussion by a show of hands eight members were in favor of SH37; seven members were in favor of SH240; six members were in favor of SH108. SH233 was kept for consideration through a passion vote.

**NEXT STEPS:** Ms. Pavlidou Kyprianou and Ms. Middeleer will develop questions, as well as collect questions from the commission members, relative to designs for the next meeting. The advisory team will be invited to attend the next meeting, or respond electronically. Mr. Krauss will gather necessary contact information and draft a letter for review at the next meeting. Ms. Llodra requested the next steps also include Planning and Zoning, the approval process, the bidding stages and the regulatory actions of the town. The next meeting will be held on May 10.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The special meeting of the Sandy Hook Permanent Memorial Commission was adjourned at 9:36pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Marcinek, clerk