

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE PERMANENMEMORIAL COMMISSION

The Permanent Memorial Commission held a special meeting Tuesday, June 13, 2017 in the Council Chamber of the Newtown Municipal Center, Newtown. Chairman Lyddy called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and began with a moment of silence.

**PRESENT:** Kyle Lyddy, Brian Engel, Dan Krauss, Agni Pavlidou Kyprianou, Sarah Middelcer, Tricia Pinto, Donna VanWaalwijk

**ABSENT:** Joann Bacon, Joanne, Brunetti, Alan Martin

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

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** none.

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION:**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Ms. VanWaalwijk moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 11, 2017. Ms. Pinto seconded. All in favor.

**Design Phase of Project**

**Sub Committee Update & Next Steps:** Ms. Middelcer read an introduction to submission guidelines presentation (att.). Ms. Middelcer and Ms. Pavlidou Kyprianou presented a draft of the Guidelines for Submitting a Design. The committee members reviewed and discussed various aspects including how people will be notified to submit a design, eligibility, history and background, the commission charge and mission statement as well as the project description, community feedback, main concept, general principles and design elements, selection process and criteria and design submission requirements. The first phase of the project will have more of an emphasis on renderings and concept, not detailed construction drawings. Using sacred soil as part of the project was discussed; this may not be able to be used with plantings; there will be further discussion on this topic. Mr. Engel suggested posting a video, possibly an aerial view, of the memorial property, on the memorial website. Ms. Middelcer will speak with the town IT department regarding an email address to accept applications. The commission will work with advisors to narrow all applications down to a short list.

**DESIGN PHASE REVIEW PANEL:** Ms. Middelcer and Ms. Pavlidou Kyprianou suggested landscape architects and a university professor act in an advisory role. Ms. Pinto asked about having a project manager assist. Mr. Krauss moved to move forward with defining the selection panel as the ten members of the Sandy Hook Permenant Memorial Commission. Ms. Pavlidou Kyprianou seconded. All in favor.

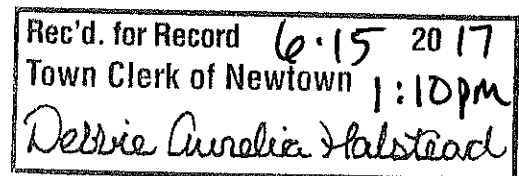
**COMMUNICATION to COMMISSION:** Mr. Lyddy submitted an email from someone regarding long term maintenance of the Columbine Memorial (att.) and from the Sunshine Girl Charities, Inc., who donated a grove of 49 trees to honor each of the victims of the Pulse nightclub shooting and would like to donate a similar grove to Newtown in remembrance of the victims of the 2012 shooting (att.).

**MISCELLANEOUS:** none.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Having no further business the Permanent Memorial Commission adjourned their special meeting at 9:27pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Marcinek, Clerk pro tem

*Attachments: Introduction to submissions guidelines presentation; Columbine Memorial email; Sunshine Girl Charities, Inc. email*



## INTRODUCTION TO SUBMISSION GUIDELINES PRESENTATION

6-13-17 SHPMC MTG

1. As you know, at our last meeting, Pat had urged us to follow the Request for Proposal (RFP) process for selecting a design. After lengthy discussions and review of the RFP process, we, the design subcommittee (and with Kyle's agreement), are recommending to the Commission that we hold to the process for design selection that we had previously set forth. While the RFP process certainly makes sense for municipal projects like buildings and bridges, etc., the memorial project is more open-ended and thus, in our opinion, calls for a different approach.
2. The RFP process would disqualify many of those who have either showed us their designs already or who would like to participate. For at least two years we have promised to those who presented designs to us that they would have the opportunity to submit them again when we issue the invitation. We feel that this is important, not only because of our commitment to these individuals, but also because it invites the community to participate in this process in a meaningful way.
3. The selection process we have outlined in these submission guidelines thus allows nonprofessionals and emerging professionals to take part, but it does not preclude more established professionals from doing so. We anticipate a robust response from well-established firms.
4. Some of the victims' families asked us to "shoot for the stars" when going about this process. Our proposed method does allow us to consider designs by those who might not be known yet. In fact, in many instances like this, brilliant designers, like Maya Lin, were discovered this way. Neither Maya Lin nor Michael Arad, the winner of the 9/11 memorial commission, would have been eligible to participate had those projects been handled as RFPs. Maya Lin was an architecture student at Yale when she submitted her design for the Viet Nam Veterans Memorial, and Michael Arad was a young architect working for the city of New York when he submitted his design for the 9/11 memorial.
5. As for the concern about the possibility that we would select a design by a nonprofessional and then have difficulties getting it built, there are safeguards built into this document to prevent such problems. Once the final design is selected, the town will have the opportunity to be involved with the contract and thus will be able to employ its standard measures of protection.
6. This process, as outlined in this document, is more transparent than an RFP process would be, which we again feel is appropriate for this project.
7. An open invitational like this is a time-honored process, employed for virtually all of the memorials on the national mall in Washington, as well as the 9/11 and Tuscon memorials, among others.



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## Columbine ?

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Wed, May 24, 2017 at 10:17 AM

Hey Kyle,

Thanks for the nudge. I was out unexpected all last week and now playing catchup!

Our primary goal/mission of the Columbine Memorial Foundation is maintenance of the Memorial. Therefore everything we do is focused on upkeep. We have only one bank account/fund to facilitate income (donations, any fundraising activities) and expenses (to pay for repairs, improvements, etc).

Answering your question about annual maintenance isn't a simple one. Expenses to maintain have been up and down over the years. Maybe an average of \$15,000 per year is about right.

Several years ago, the tablet engraving infill started coming out. That was a healthy expense to repair (\$30K) and wasn't covered by the original work warranty. After that, we didn't do any major improvements for a few years. Just recently, we had some extensive concrete removed and replaced with paver stones. While we strive to get as much donated as possible, it's not as easy as it used to be. This concrete/paver project cost us \$50K. We now must focus on generating awareness and fundraising to get our account balance back up.

One of the things that we always knew - but quite honestly didn't give it much attention (call it denial maybe!), was someday the Memorial would start to show it's wear and tear - and would need major repairs. I think we thought it wouldn't be in "our lifetime". Well ha! - we are approaching our 10 year dedication anniversary - and just like clockwork with the Colorado weather extremes, the Memorial is indeed now showing it's wear and tear. My advice to you -- be prepared for that day! :)

Hope this info helps. I'm always happy to help you. Let me know if you have other questions.

Be well! Stay in touch!  
Lora



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## Donation of memorial grove

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Mon, Jun 12, 2017 at 9:11 PM

Dear Sir or Madam,

I operate a charitable organization called Sunshine Girl Charities Inc. ([Www.sunshinegirl.org](http://www.sunshinegirl.org)). We conduct a number of projects in service of the natural environment and of children and other vulnerable populations. In connection therewith, we often plant trees and install gardens. We recently installed a grove of 49 trees to honor each of the victims if the Pulse nightclub shooting and tagged each tree with a beautiful memorial plaque dedicated to each victim. The park in which we planted the trees has become a beautiful place of solace, peace and tolerance.

We would be honored to donate a similar grove of trees to Newtown in honor and remembrance of the victims of the 2012 shooting. We would provide the trees, plaques, installation and everything else needed. We would just need a park in which we can install the trees and your permission to do this. We would not intended to take away in any way from your plans for a permanent memorial. This would be in addition to whatever you are planning

Here is a brief video of our prior project:

<https://youtu.be/VB-sVLDkPRw>

I really hope you can grant us permission to provide this gift. Thank you!

Jacqueline Klosek  
Sunshine Girl Charities Inc.

Sent from my iPhone

Sent from my iPhone