



Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET ~ SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

Eric Wellman, First Selectman

**Hometown Hero Selection Committee
Simsbury Town Hall – Room 103
Monday, May 6, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.**

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Call to Order

1. Housekeeping Items
 - a) Selection of Chair
 - b) 2020 Meeting Date (5/4/20) and Awards Ceremony (5/27/20)
2. Discussion on Hometown Hero Nominations
3. Determine Hometown Hero Award Recipient(s)
4. Minutes of May 7, 2018

Adjournment



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Maria E. Capriola - Town Manager

To: Ericka Butler, Town Clerk
Cc: Hometown Hero Selection Committee
From: Maria E. Capriola, Town Manager
Date: May 6, 2019
Re: Hometown Hero Selection Committee - 2020 Regular Meeting Schedule

At their meeting on May 6 the Hometown Hero Selection Committee agreed by consensus to establish a regular meeting schedule for 2020. The meeting will be held at 6:00 pm.

Meeting dates are as follows:

May 4th, 2020

The meeting will be held in Conference Room 103 of the Town Hall, located at 933 Hopmeadow Street. Meetings will be properly noticed in accordance with FOIA requirements.

Name of Nominee

Person Nominating

Simsbury Garden Club	Robin Demuth Schofield
Simsbury Garden Club	Becky Kreczko
Lisa Gray	Lisa Heavner
Ferg Jansen	William W. Cox
Laura Riley	Peter & Susan Adamowicz
Nancy Buggy	Barbara Griffin



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Guidelines for the Hometown Hero Program

Adopted by Board of Selectmen

November 13, 1996

Amended February 23, 1998

Amended March 26, 2018

1. Background Information

The Program was initiated in 1986 by Governor William O'Neill as part of the 350th Anniversary of the founding of Connecticut. Any municipality could designate residents as "Hometown Heroes" for any deed or service that made the community a better place in which to live. State certificates were presented to the 42 individuals and 4 organizations on May 12, 1986. The following year, First Selectwoman Margaret Shanks continued the program with certificates developed for Simsbury, naming 48 designates. It has been continued since, with Hometown Heroes recognized at a ceremony during the month of May as May 12th is the date of Simsbury's birth.

2. Criteria for Selection

- A. A person(s) who is a resident, or who is active in the Simsbury community, or who lived in Simsbury during the time period that is under consideration.
- B. Person(s) who has demonstrated selfless and altruistic behavior which contributes significantly to the betterment of our Town.
- C. That such deed or action performed inures primarily to the Town of Simsbury, although not necessarily exclusively; and that.
- D. Any individual or group that has been nominated to the Hometown Hero Award Committee (henceforth "Committee") shall be duly considered with the following exceptions:
 - The hero shall not be a member of Town staff, nor a sitting elected or appointed official. Nor shall the hero have benefited economically from his/her endeavors on behalf of the Town.
- E. There will be no quotas or automatic selections by the Committee. Recognizing the premise that an abundance of awards will dilute the significance of the award, the Committee is duly charged to use its discretion in the number to be awarded.

3. The Selection Process

- A. Written nominations will be requested and received during a thirty (30) day period typically occurring in whole or part during the months of March and/or April.
- B. The Selection Committee shall review the names nominated for the Hometown Hero Award. The Committee shall make selection and approve the list of award recipients no later than two weeks prior to the scheduled ceremony.
- C. The Town Manager's Office shall notify all award recipients of the time and place of the award ceremony.
- D. The Town Manager's Office shall complete arrangements for the ceremony such as scheduling, publicity, and refreshments.
- E. The names of award recipients will be engraved on the Hometown Heroes plaque displayed in Town Hall.

4. The Selection Committee

The Selection Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Selectmen on a biennial basis. The Selection Committee shall consist of the First Selectman, a Board of Selectmen member of the opposite party, a member of the Historical Society, a business leader, a previous hometown hero, and a member of a veterans or service organization, with the goal of non-partisanship in mind.

The membership of the Committee shall be recommended by the First Selectman and the Town Manager to the Board of Selectmen. The Board of Selectmen is the appointing authority.

Staff assistance to the Selection Committee shall include reasonable requests deemed necessary by the Committee.



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Hometown Hero Selection Committee

Special Meeting

Monday, May 7, 2018

Room 103, Town Hall, 933 Hopmeadow Street

MINUTES – “Subject to Approval”

Members Present: TJ Donahue, Tom Horan, Elaine Lang, Len Lanza, Mike Paine, Eric Wellman

Staff Present: Maria Capriola

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm.

1) Housekeeping Items

Donahue made the motion, seconded by Paine to select Wellman as Chair. Motion passed unanimously. It was determined that a Vice Chair was not needed.

By consensus, the Committee established its 2019 regular meeting schedule as Monday, May 6, 2019 at 6pm. The meeting schedule will be filed with the Town Clerk by staff.

The 2019 awards ceremony will be held prior to the second Board of Selectmen regular meeting in May 2019. The 2018 awards ceremony will be held on May 30, 2018 at 5pm.

2) Review, Discuss and Consider Hometown Hero Nomination Forms

The Committee reviewed and discussed the 8 received non-duplicative nominations. One of the 8 nominees received multiple nominations. 1 nominee did not meet the eligibility criteria pursuant to the Hometown Hero Selection Guidelines because he is a current town employee.

The Committee has also suggested that part-time employees of the town be considered eligible for future consideration; the Hometown Hero Guidelines would need to be updated to accommodate such a change in eligibility.

3) Finalize and Act on Approved Hometown Hero Award Recipients

Donahue made the motion, seconded by Horan to select the following nominees to be recipients of the 2018 Hometown Hero Award:

- Susan Brachwitz
- Kathleen (Kathy) Fallon
- Jim and Marianne Flynn
- Gerald (Gerry) Garlick
- John O'Neil
- James (Jim) Ray (posthumous)

The motion passed unanimously.

Donahue made the motion, seconded by Paine, to request the Town Manager to send correspondence to the Chief of Police, along with the nomination form for Officer Cushman to be included with his personnel file, recognizing his professionalism and service to the community. Motion passed unanimously.

4) Minutes

The minutes of April 28, 2017 were approved as presented by consensus.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:28pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Maria E. Capriola
Town Manager
Town of Simsbury