

Sec. 2-309.5. – Veterans commission ~~on monuments, memorials and dedications~~

There is hereby established, pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 41, Section 105, a veterans commission ~~on monuments, memorials, and dedications~~. The commission shall consist of the mayor or his designee, and five members appointed by the mayor, three of whom shall be veterans; two shall be appointed for one year, two for two years and one for three years, and as the term of each member expires a successor shall be appointed for three years. Any vacancy shall be filled in the same manner for the unexpired term. The commissioner of public works or his designee shall serve the commission in an advisory role.

It shall be the responsibility of the commission to maintain the custody and care of all monuments, memorials, and dedications in the city for the purpose of property commemorating the services and sacrifices of ~~the soldiers, sailors, marines, and airmen~~ former members of the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, and Coast Guard who have served the country in war, or persons who have served the commonwealth in time of war; to accept gifts or bequests and any appropriations of money made for said purpose, and to expend such funds only for such purpose.

The commission shall have charge and control of the construction of any such monument, memorial or dedication and shall have custody and care thereof after its construction.

In the case of dedications ~~of streets and hero~~ squares, the several ~~streets and hero~~ squares in the city shall retain the names by which they are now known, and ~~all streets and hero~~ squares hereafter to be ~~laid out~~determined shall be named by the commission. A “hero square” is defined as a public square of intersection which is dedicated to a service member who served during wartime. ~~No street or hero~~ square shall hereafter be named for any person then living, except by unanimous vote of the members of the commission present and voting on the proposed name. The commission may, by a two-thirds vote of the whole commission, dedicate a ~~public street or hero~~ square in the city, provided that no deed or contractual restriction prohibits such dedication; and provided further, that whenever the commission intends to make such dedication it shall, before final action thereon, appoint a time and place for hearing all persons interested therein, and direct that notices of such hearing and of its intention to make such dedication shall be given to all owners of land adjoining such street or square in the manner required in the laying out of streets.

~~Municipal buildings, municipal parks, and all other municipal property in the city shall retain the names by which they are now known, and all buildings, parks, property, and any other part thereof hereafter to be named, shall be named by the commission, except that no name shall be given to the city hall or high school. The concourse shall be named Anthony Fedele Way, and the field at the Capuano School shall be named James F. McCarthy Field. The land at 59 Otis St., previously known as Otis Playground, is renamed Deanna Cremin Park as of October 13, 2016. No building, park, property, or part thereof shall hereafter be named for any person then living except by unanimous vote of the members of the commission present and voting on the proposed name. The commission may, by a two-thirds vote of the whole commission, dedicate any municipal building, park, or property in the city provided that no deed or contractual restriction prohibits such dedication; and provided further, that whenever the commission~~

~~intends to make such dedication it shall, before final action thereon, appoint a time and place for hearing all persons interested.~~

~~The commission is authorized, in its discretion, to make any of the above noted dedications or commemorations to veterans as well as non-veterans.~~

The commission shall utilize the following criteria when determining whether an individual shall be honored by a monument, memorial, or hero square:

- ~~1.—An individual must have made a valuable and substantive contribution during wartime, to the city in an official, civic, or social capacity, which sets them apart from normal civic participation in the affairs of the city. Examples of such contributions include the following:
 - ~~a.—Service in public office, in either an elected or appointed capacity;~~
 - ~~b.—Service as a leader of an active organization in the community, which contributes to the social well-being and fabric of their neighborhood or the city;~~
 - ~~c.—Meritorious and distinguished service as an employee of the city; and/or~~
 - ~~d.1. Having performed a heroic or distinguished act completely without regard for personal safety or well-being.~~~~
2. The individual must be (or have been) a resident of the ward in which the dedication will be made.
3. Requestors must cover all associated costs of the purchase and installation of the memorial.
4. Each intersection will have only one dedication designated.

(Ord. No. 2006-06, 1-26-2006; Ord. No. 2007-06, 4-26-2007; Ord. No. 2007-13, 9-20-2007; Ord. No. 2008-14, 9-9-2008; Ord. No. 2016-14 , 10-13-2016)

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