

POLICY FOR CONSIDERATION FOR A VETERAN'S MEMORIAL SQUARE DEDICATION

DESCRIPTION

Veteran's Memorial Square Dedication Signs are to recognize honorably discharged Veterans that have contributed not only their time serving our Country, but also serving our community for the betterment of Stoughton.

ELIGIBILITY (There are six (6) Criteria that must be met for consideration of a Veteran's Memorial Square)

- 1** The person under consideration must be deceased.
- 2** The person under consideration must be a wartime Veteran having served in a branch of the United States Military and have been discharged under Honorable conditions. To be considered a wartime Veteran, the person under consideration must meet the attached definition of a Massachusetts wartime Veteran defined in Massachusetts General Law Chapter 4, Section 7, Clause 43.
- 3** The person under consideration must not have been convicted of a felony crime unless having subsequently been pardoned.
- 4** The person under consideration must meet a minimum residency requirement of having lived in Stoughton for 10 years. In addition, at the time of the request, there must be (a) surviving family member(s) still residing in Stoughton.
- 5** The person under consideration must have a documented record of at least 10 years of active community service that contributed to the betterment of Stoughton. A full-time paid position by itself would not be a qualified contribution. Community service is defined as having belonged to and actively participated in any government, business, sports, charitable, military, religious or civic organization. In such community service the person under consideration must have demonstrated exemplary character and a consistent commitment to volunteering his/her time. **(Please note that memberships in military, charitable, or other organizations, is not justification for 10 years of community service. There must be specific examples of volunteering noted.)**
- 6** A minimum of three (3) unrelated references must be submitted on behalf of the person being considered.

Veteran's Memorial Square Approvals and Placement

- Once the application is reviewed by the Veteran's Memorial Square Committee, it will then be scheduled to be presented to the Select board. If the applicant does not meet Criteria 2, 4 or 5 on the Policy for Consideration for a Veteran's Memorial Square Dedication, the requestor may submit Items 2 and 5 from above along with a detailed statement detailing the Extraordinary Circumstances that the requestor feels applies. The Select board will vote on whether or not the application will be approved. At the sole discretion of the Stoughton Selectboard and by a majority vote of that Board, exceptions may be made to provisions of this policy.
- All Veteran's Memorial Squares will have a Color blue background, with the exception of Active Duty Service Men and Women that were Killed in Action, which will have a black background. The Branch of Service logo will be included on the signs.
- While applications for a Memorial Square dedication will be considered upon the passing of a Veteran, the application may be submitted at any time.

Veteran's Memorial Square Application

PROCESS:

- ☐ All applications must be submitted through the Department of Veteran's Services, 10 Pearl Street, Stoughton, MA 02072. After all the requested information has been received, the application will be reviewed by the Committee, chaired by the Director of Veterans' Services. Upon completion of the review, a recommendation will be made to the Board of Selectmen.
- ☐ Only a family member of the person for whom the Veteran's Memorial Square Dedication is being requested, may submit an application.
- ☐ All of the information requested on this application, must be submitted and completed. It is the responsibility of the requestor to provide all requested documents. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

Name of person for whom Veteran's Memorial Square Dedication is being requested

Proposed primary and alternate location for Veteran's Memorial Square

Name of person requesting: _____

Street Address _____

Town/City/Zip _____

Tel: (_____) _____ **Email:** _____

Relationship to person for whom Veteran's Memorial Square Dedication being requested _____

The following information must be submitted:

- 1 Military Discharge papers (DD-214) - Must be under Honorable Conditions
- 2 Death Certificate
- 3 Three (3) references on applicant's behalf (must not be family members)
- 4 Statement attesting that applicant does not have an unpardoned felony conviction
- 5 Proof of having met minimum residency requirement
- 6 Detailed statement with supporting documentation, detailing applicant's history of contributing to the betterment of Stoughton for minimum period of 10 years.