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Memorial listing names of sailors aboard the USS Eagle 56

1 message

Stephen Lyons <molsey@maine.rr.com>

Wed, Sep 25, 2019 at 6:03 AM

To: cetowncouncil@capeelizabeth.org

Cc: Paul Lawton <paulmlawton@yahoo.com>, Kathleen Raftice <kathleen.raftice@capeelizabeth.org>, christian.cutter@capeelizabeth.org, Jeanne Gross <directoratphl@gmail.com>

To: Cape Elizabeth Town Council

Subject: Memorial listing names of sailors aboard the USS Eagle 56, sunk during by a German Submarine about five miles off the coast of Cape Elizabeth, Maine on April 23, 1945, during World War Two.

Mr. Paul Lawton, Attorney & Naval Historian, will be placed on the agenda for the Cape Elizabeth Fort Williams Advisory Committee Meeting on October 17, at 7PM. Paul will propose a memorial/monument with the names of all the sailors aboard the USS Eagle 56, sunk by a German submarine five miles off the coast of Cape Elizabeth, Maine on April 23, 1945.

The memorial would be a granite monument with bronze plaque inlaid like the original monument/plaque currently in place. The design and names have already taken place by Mr. Lawton and Richardson Monument in South Portland, Maine. Of the 62 men aboard the Eagle 56, 49 were killed in action and 13 survived. This memorial will be placed beside the current memorial already in place at Fort Williams. The ship was sunk about 5 miles off the coast of Cape Elizabeth and is now designated war grave. This was the greatest number of servicemen killed in action off the coast of New England during World War Two. The monument will have all the sailors aboard that day with a notation of the sailors killed in action protecting Cape Elizabeth, Maine, and the United States of America.

Paul will provide the FWAC supporting documents for this memorial at the FWAC Meeting on October 17, 2019.

Paul is also meeting earlier in the day with the Director of Portland Head Lighthouse, Jeanne Gross, to propose a display honoring these sailors at the Museum at Portland Head Lighthouse.

As a side note, there is a three-part television special "The Hunt For Eagle 56" on the Smithsonian Channel 131, that began on September 22, at 9PM.

The second part I believe is this Sunday at 9PM. I thought this might be helpful to watch to fully understand the importance of this memorial.

Thank-you.

Regards,

Steve Lyons

Cape Elizabeth, Maine

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 **Fort Williams**
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