



Town of Fairhaven

Massachusetts

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Town Dedication Policy

This policy applies to requests for memorial dedications of Town facilities and places in honor and/or in memory of those who served the Town of Fairhaven. Requests should be sponsored by a Fairhaven Board, Committee or Department and then sent to the Select Board. The dedication of public property should be done sparingly and with compelling reasons by the applicant. Appropriately sponsored requests with supporting documentation are subject to final review and approval at a regular meeting of the Select Board.

Criteria

Requests will be reviewed to determine whether the proposed honoree meets at least one of the following criteria and has a tangible connection with the facility:

- Significant contribution to Fairhaven community as determined by the sponsoring Fairhaven Board, Committee or Department
 - A person who has been active in civic affairs in Fairhaven, whose life/contributions have significance to Fairhaven history and are documented by town records, historical documents or newspapers.
 - Valuable and substantial contribution to the Town in an official, civic, or social capacity, which sets them apart from normal civic participation in the affairs of the Town. (Examples: Service in public office, either in an elected, appointed or volunteer capacity)
 - Service as a leader of an active organization of the community, which contributes to the social well-being and fabric of their neighborhood or the Town as a whole.
 - Distinguished careers by present or former residents who have achieved state or national fame.
 - Significant contributions that improved the quality of life, the general health or major development of Fairhaven, the Commonwealth or the nation.
- Performed a heroic or distinguished act completely without regard for personal safety and welfare for the common good.
- Town Employee Killed in the Line of Duty
- Worked in public service in Fairhaven
 - Meritorious and distinguished service as an employee of the Town.
 - Distinguished public service to Fairhaven, the Commonwealth or the nation.
- Historical Significance
 - All dedication requests associated with historical events or historical figures shall be sponsored by the Historical Commission.

Procedure

The request should be submitted to a Fairhaven Board, Committee or Department for review and sponsorship. Once a request has been sponsored by a Town Board, Committee or Department it will be submitted by the sponsoring board or department to the Select Board to be heard during a regular meeting.

Eligibility

All public facilities and places under the jurisdiction of the Select Board and/or any of its direct or indirect appointees are eligible for consideration. These places include, but are not limited to: town buildings or parts thereof, town land, recreation areas, intersections and other landmarks.

Other Considerations

This policy is meant to serve as a guide to those persons seeking a memorial dedication on or at Town facilities. Nothing herein shall be construed so as to limit the Board's authority to use its discretion based on the facts and circumstances surrounding a particular issue and the Board reserves its right to modify or discontinue this policy

All costs and any permit or other application fees associated with the request are the sole responsibility of the applicant. The Department of Public Works should be consulted by the requestor for review of any signage being considered.

Policy adopted November 20, 2023