

August 31, 2016

Borough of Roselle Park  
110 Westfield Avenue  
Roselle Park, NJ 07204

To the Mayor and Council:

My name is Robert Domanski and I spoke during the public comment section of the previous Council meeting regarding the kneeling soldier memorial in front of the library. In my comments I explained how, as someone who is Jewish and whose family has a history of serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, I would be more than willing to donate a similar memorial to be displayed in front of the library featuring a soldier kneeling before a Star of David. I would like to re-state that offer.

For the record, I am not opposed to the Cross being displayed in front of the library, I only want to have my religion (and the sacrifices that my family has made over the years) to be similarly acknowledged and represented. Despite what some individuals who spoke at the Council meeting suggested – that the Cross is only a “marker” and has no religious significance – I would like to once again formally testify that, as a Jewish person and as a member of a Jewish family, we whole-heartedly do not feel that the Cross represents us; and, in fact, the notion that the Cross – the literal symbol of the crucifixion of Jesus – is somehow not a Christian symbol comes across as completely disingenuous and intellectually dishonest. If the Cross is not a symbol of Christianity, then what is?

As a result, I repeat my desire to donate a kneeling soldier memorial with a Star of David to be displayed in front of the library, side-by-side with the kneeling soldier before the Cross, which would, by the way, together form a positive representation of how American soldiers of all faiths have fought side-by-side since the nation’s founding. My proposal is for such a memorial to be virtually identical the existing one on display in front of the library in dimension: 48” high by 50” wide by 1” thick, and made of wood.

I request that a resolution to approve this donation be added to the agenda of the next Council meeting. Please feel free to contact me with any questions. Thank you.

Robert Domanski

110 Westfield Avenue  
Roselle Park, NJ 07204

cc: Mac Ford, Esq.  
R. Huxford  
/ dlv  
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