



VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK FOUNDATION OF PENSACOLA, INC.
Board of Directors Meeting, February 07, 2017
MINUTES

Board Members Present

David Glassman, Michael Swinehart, Peter McKanna, Butch Hansen, Paul Entrekin, Jim Durr, Jim Murphy, Lisa Rawson, Ed Holt (Legal Advisor), and Bill Weeks (City Representative).

Board Members Absent

Roberto Rivera, Paul Brown, Peter Frano, Joe Glover, and Jack Brown (Immediate Past President).

Guest(s) Present

Warren Palmer, Volunteer Coordinator; and Wendell Slater, DigiPro representative.

(Motions and actions taken are listed in red)

Call to Order and Welcome: President Hansen called the meeting to order at 3:44 p.m. and asked those present for a moment of silence for those we honor at the Park, especially Senior Chief Petty Officer William "Ryan" Owens who was killed in action in Yemen on January 29, 2017. The Pledge of Allegiance followed the moment of silence.

President Hansen asked that the minutes reflect Sunshine Law and Publics Records training was conducted by Mr. Ed Holt for new board members, with several others attending for a refresher, before the meeting.

President Hansen recognized and welcomed the guests present.

Minutes: The minutes of the January 24, 2017 board meeting were presented for approval. **Motion by Michael Swinehart to approve minutes as presented. Second by Paul Entrekin. Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report: President Hansen reported the Foundation is \$5,216.55 in the black so far in 2017 and those funds will cover the upcoming engraving on The Wall South (\$5,000 donation from the Bear Family Foundation earmarked for this project). Current balance is \$49,462.31.

President's Report: President Hansen reported on the following:

- The City of Pensacola is currently planning for Park Rangers to patrol city parks and he is looking into getting Veterans Memorial Park added to their rotation to augment the current security contractor.
- President Hansen met with the City Administrator regarding the possibility of the city funding annual maintenance at the Park which is about \$35,000. President Hansen was later contacted by the Parks and Recreation director and the City Attorney regarding this proposal. Parks and Recreation is working on a budget item to cover these costs in the next budget year. Further discussion was held regarding the possibility of combining Veterans Memorial Park and Admiral Mason Park which would result in a lower total maintenance cost compared to the two Parks being funded separately. This change would require a change to the license agreement.
- The website still lacks a biography and photo of Jim Durr and a photo of Lisa Rawson. Lisa provided her photo to David Glassman during the meeting.
- There has been no notification received yet on approval / disapproval of a grant application to Gulf Power for the Global War on Terror Memorial. President Hansen has applied for another grant from the Sheriff's Department with a target of \$5,000.
- President Hansen made a presentation at an Impact 100 membership drive event to discuss the grant application process from the perspective of a previous applicant and grant recipient.
- Gulf Coast Veterans in Need donated \$5,000 as a result of their vote to dissolve and may provide additional funds if any remain after other distributions are completed.
- President Hansen has had continued contact with local attorney Bob Kerrigan who continues to have concerns regarding the Purple Heart Memorial plaque. This issue has identified a need for a policy regarding recognition of for-profit organizations' that support of the Park. Lisa Rawson will draft a proposal.



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Committee Reports

City: Bills Weeks reported on the following:

- Plans for the new Pensacola Bay Bridge may result in Bayfront Parkway being narrowed from four lanes to two in order to accommodate a walking/biking lane from the bridge to Sanders Beach.
- The Mayor is considering a possible partnership with a local hospital for a downtown location.

Events: Roberto Rivera was not present. President Hansen reported that Master Guns continues to have significant health problems which are being addressed but are keeping him at home except for medical appointments.

Maintenance and Planning: Peter McKanna reported on the following:

- The names to be engraved on The Wall South are being proofed and finalized. The temperature is currently suitable for engraving, the only weather-related issue is humidity. Peter is working with David Glassman to ensure publicity of the one-day engraving event which may be done with little notice when conditions are favorable. President Hansen noted he would be out of the country February 28 through March 18 so he will not be present if the engraving is completed during that time.
- There are two volunteer groups that might be able to help with cutting, not removal, of the hedges above The Wall South. Bill Weeks will check with the Mayor's office about cutting the hedges down to a two or three foot height.
- Lights on the World War II Memorial are not working consistently. Peter did a lighting test with a potential solution using LED lights. The test worked well and the LED option could reduce the cost of replacement from \$40,000 to \$8,300.
- Peter has a quote for a permanent restroom facility one a trailer that would provide male and female restrooms and a separate ADA-compliant restroom. Depending on the facility options chosen, the cost is about \$72,000 compared to as much as \$400,000 for a brick-and-mortar building. Concerns and possible solutions for the ongoing maintenance of the facility were discussed.

Technology: David Glassman reported on the following:

- Introduced Wendell Slater representing DigiPro who is helping with the Cohen project.
- The survey for the Cohen project is ready but is being held. The survey and strategy for its distribution were discussed at length. Decisions on the survey were tabled until the next meeting.

President Hansen closed the meeting with a brief discussion about 2017 fundraising. He is building a spreadsheet of potential business partners and is developing a fundraising letter. He will distribute the spreadsheet to all Board members for suggested additions.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for February 21 at 3:30PM.

Submitted by:

James M. Murphy