



VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK FOUNDATION OF PENSACOLA, INC.
Board of Directors Meeting, January 24, 2016
MINUTES

Board Members Present

David Glassman, Michael Swinehart, Peter McKanna, Butch Hansen, Paul Brown, Paul Entrekin, Jim Durr, Jim Murphy, and Bill Weeks (City Representative).

Board Members Absent

Lisa Rawson, Roberto Rivera, Peter Frano, Joe Glover, Jack Brown (Immediate Past President), and Ed Holt (Legal Advisor).

Guest(s) Present

Warren Palmer, Volunteer Coordinator; LCDR (Retired) Robert Donofrio; Bill Cody; and Ashley Lukasiewicz.

(Motions and actions taken are listed in red)

Call to Order and Welcome: President Hansen called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m. and asked those present for a moment of silence for those we honor at the Park. The Pledge of Allegiance followed the moment of silence.

President Hansen requested a status on 2017 Conflict of Interest forms. All but three have been received by the Secretary. President Hansen requested an email to those Directors who still need to submit the form for 2017.

David Glassman recognized and welcomed the guests present.

Minutes: The minutes of the January 10, 2016 board meeting were presented for approval. **Motion by Paul Entrekin to approve minutes as presented. Second by Jim Durr. Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report: Paul Brown arrived a few minutes late so President Hansen made the report. Bank balance is currently \$43,072. Donations for 2017 to-date were reported as \$275.00.

The Secretary turned in a check for \$500.00 from Navy Federal received unexpectedly in the mail and read the accompanying letter. Paul Entrekin also made a \$1,000.00 donation at the meeting. David Glassman reported the Marine Corps League was meeting later in the week to consider a donation to the Foundation.

President Hansen provided an update on the dissolution of Gulf Coast Veterans in Need. They are expected to make a donation for the planned final GWOT Memorial as they liquidate their funds. There was a short discussion about using the funds to purchase name plaques for the current GWOT Memorial. The plaques cost \$800.00 each but smaller, less expensive plaques may be used on the final GWOT Memorial. President Hansen reported on his impromptu interview with WEAR-TV on 20 January regarding this Memorial.

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

- There have been no significant security problems, only occasional instances of people sleeping the Park who move along without issue when asked.
- Ed Holt was offered to deliver Sunshine Law training for Directors, particularly new Directors who've not previously received it. President Hansen will work with Ed Holt to set a time for the training, possibly for one hour before a regularly scheduled future meeting.
- The Annual Report is written and ready for delivery. President Hansen had hoped to speak to Mayor Hayward and City Administrator Eric Olson before submission. He has only been able to see Mr. Olson who seemed receptive to some of the new initiatives included in the report. President Hansen will deliver the Annual Report to the City very soon.
- The website needs to be updated to ensure all current Directors' bios and photos are included.
- There has been no notification received yet on approval / disapproval of a grant application to Gulf Power for the Global War on Terror Memorial.



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- One of the 2017 donations was from a for-profit organization. A draft policy on recognizing for-profit entities' support to the Park Foundation was expected from Lisa Rawson; President Hansen will follow-up on the progress of that draft.
- Grace Lutheran Church approached the City about holding an Easter Sunrise service at the Park; the City director the Church to President Hansen. President Hansen did not object to the service and the Church needs no support from the Foundation.
- Discussed an issue raised by a local attorney regarding recognition of donors on Memorials. This led to a lengthy discussion related to the issue of a written policy on recognition of these entities (above). More to follow once a draft policy is available.

David Glassman recognized the guests and addressed the Board regarding efforts conduct a demographic study in support of the Cohen Veterans Network. David introduced again Mr. Bill Cody who is working on coding available data and formulating a survey to determine the Veteran population and level of mental health care need in the area. The draft survey will be available for Directors' to review and will be available on our website for Veterans' to complete in about two weeks. LCDR (Retired) Robert Danafrío provided additional information on the Cohen Veterans Network goals and efforts to not replace local services but to augment them, help Veterans access them, and provide free services to Veterans and services to family members on a space-available basis. Ashley Lukasiewicz, whose husband, Marine Corps Captain Dustin R. Lukasiewicz, was lost in a UH-1Y crash in 2015 in Nepal, was also recognized. She addressed the board eloquently about the importance to her of the Park generally and the Marine Aviation Memorial specifically.

The meeting recessed at 4:35 and reconvened at 4:45.

President Hansen addressed the need to develop a strong fundraising strategy for 2017. This led to a lengthy discussion of with many good to help increase donor outreach. This outreach will include expanding our email list and using that to contact potential donors. President Hansen and Vice President Swinehart also volunteered to speak to any groups the Directors may identifying as potential donors. Peter McKanna reminded the Directors that the current bid for the GWOT Memorial is \$450,000 and we cannot achieve this level of funding with only small donations so 2017 fundraising efforts are important to this project.

Committee Reports

Maintenance and Planning: Peter McKanna

- The first proof of the template for names to be added to the Wall South has been reviewed. It has been returned to the vendor and will be returned for final review in advance of engraving.
- There are cracks around the base of the World War II Memorial. This issue may be addressed when the lighting upgrade is completed.

The meeting ran long due to many lengthy and beneficial discussions and no other Committee Reports were presented.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 5:34 p.m. The next meeting is February 7 at 3:30PM.

Submitted by:

James M. Murphy