



VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK FOUNDATION OF PENSACOLA, INC.  
Board of Directors Meeting, March 17, 2017  
MINUTES

**Board Members Present**

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

**Board Members Absent**

Butch Hansen, Peter Frano, Joe Glover, Jim Durr, Lisa Rawson, Ed Holt (Legal Advisor), and Jack Brown (Immediate Past President).

**Guest(s) Present**

Warren Palmer, Volunteer Coordinator; Kevin Freeland and Terry Runyon, Viet Nam Vets/Legacy Vets Motorcycle Club; Duke Boutwell, Joe Garner, and Joe Bridges, Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association.

(Motions and actions taken are listed in red)

**Call to Order and Welcome:** Vice President Swinehart called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m. and asked those present to observe a moment of silence to honor our fallen colleagues. The Pledge of Allegiance followed the moment of silence.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the February 21, 2017 board meeting were presented for approval. **Motion by Paul Entrekin to approve minutes as presented. Second by Peter McKanna. The motion carried unanimously.**

Vice President Swinehart recognized and welcomed the guests present and asked Mr. Garner to deliver his remarks. Mr. Garner sought clarity on when the Memorial Day observance would be held at the Park, aware that discussion had occurred regarding the possibility of moving the event from Sunday to Monday. This led to a lengthy discussion among the board members and the guests. Several issues were discussed, particularly the scheduling of Viet Nam Vets/Legacy Vets Motorcycle Club' Memorial Day motorcycle ride, the potential to increase citizen attendance at the ceremony by moving to Monday so as not to conflict with local church services, and holding the ceremony on Memorial Day (Monday) instead of the day before. Mr. Runyon and Mr. Freeland provided a history of the motorcycle ride they sponsor annually which has always been held on the Sunday before Memorial Day following the history and schedule of the Rolling Thunder ride conducted annually in Washington, DC. Mr. Runyon and Mr. Freeland stated the ride will be held on Sunday regardless of when the VMPF-sponsored ceremony is held. **Motion by Paul Entrekin to delay the vote on scheduling of the Memorial Day observance until the next regularly scheduled meeting or a special meeting (if called). Second by Roberto Rivera. The motion carried.**

**Mr. Runyon informed the board that the motorcycle ride is currently scheduled to start at 12:00p p.m. and arrive at the Park at 12:45. He said an 11:00 a.m. start time work better logistically. He asked for a determination of the ceremony start time as soon as possible.**

Vice President Swinehart again recognized Mr. Garner who presented a \$300.00 donation to the Foundation from the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association.

**Treasurer's Report:** Paul Brown reported that so far in 2017 the Foundation was operating in the black with \$8,174.01 profits to date. The current balance is \$52,019.67.

**President's Report:** Vice President Swinehart reported on the following:

- Asked for an update on the hedge trimming project. Peter McKanna reported that the project is completed. The exact total cost of the project is unknown since some of the costs were covered by personal donations, including equipment rental, provided by Peter McKanna, Warren Palmer, and others. Peter McKanna also complimented the assistance of many Sailors from NAS Pensacola who volunteered their time which helped reduce paid labor costs.



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- Asked for an update on the Wall South name engraving. Peter McKanna reported that the engraving is scheduled for March 29, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. The engraving will take approximately one hour.
- Mr. McKanna also reported that Mr. Tom Andrews, owner of a local cleaning company, has volunteered to clean all concrete walkways and walls in the Park. Mr. Andrews is donating his time and materials and will have JROTC volunteers working on the project beginning the last Saturday in March and continuing until just before Memorial Day.
- The Ceclovia event is scheduled for Saturday, March 25, 2017. Mr. Swinehart said there is a need for a coordinator from the Foundation to organize refreshments (water) for participants and arrange some other event like a “scavenger” hunt. He thought Lisa Rawson might be a great coordinator.
- The NAS Pensacola Public Affairs Officer has asked to set up a booth on Memorial Day to give away commemorative items. There were no objections.
- Presented the biography of a proposed Memorial Day Guest Speaker, retired Navy Commander Scott Moyer. **Motion by Peter McKanna to invite Commander Moyer to speak. Second by Paul Entrekin. The motion carried.**
- A local aircraft maintainer has volunteered to repaint the Cobra. All maintenance must be coordinated through the National Naval Aviation Museum since the aircraft is on loan from them.
- President Hansen and Vice President Swinehart have been invited to speak to John Appleyard’s group for help generating ideas for the proposed Donor Open House.

#### Committee Reports

City: Bills Weeks had nothing to report.

Events: Report was not requested due to the meeting running late.

Maintenance and Planning: Report was given during the President’s Report period.

Technology: David Glassman reported on the following:

- Presented a design from Ashley Lukasiewicz and Bill Cody of a memorial ‘brick’ for the Marine Aviation Bell Tower to honor fallen Marines in the Vengeance 01 (Nepal, 2015) and Pegasus 31 and 32 (Afghanistan, 2016) mishaps.
- The email announcing the Wall South engraving had a nearly 40% open rate, very high by industry standards; 2,857 people opened the email.
- The mental health survey is ready and scheduled for release on March 17, 2017.

Jim Murphy informed the board that the Naval Information Forces Reserve Command has 40 Prospective Senior Enlisted Leaders visiting the Park at 4:15 p.m. on Friday, April 21, 2017. He asked for some of the board members with more insight on the history of the Park to meet there while the Senior Enlisted Leaders tour the Park.

Paul Entrekin pointed out that a lot of time during meetings could be saved by referring to past meeting minutes instead of reviewing previous discussions.

#### Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 5:28 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for March 28, 2017 at 3:30PM.

Submitted by:

James M. Murphy