



VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK FOUNDATION OF PENSACOLA, INC.  
Board of Directors Meeting, April 25, 2017  
MINUTES

**Board Members Present**

Butch Hansen, Michael Swinehart, David Glassman, Peter Frano, Peter McKanna, Paul Entrekin, Jim Murphy, Jim Durr, Lisa Rawson, Ed Holt (Legal Advisor), and Jack Brown (Immediate Past President).

**Board Members Absent**

Roberto Rivera, Joe Glover, and Bill Weeks (City Representative).

**Guest(s) Present**

Charlie Switzer, local philanthropist; Norm "Frenchy" LaFontaine, Marine Corps League; and Warren Palmer, Volunteer Coordinator.

(Motions and actions taken are listed in red)

**Call to Order and Welcome:** President Hansen called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and asked those present to observe a moment of silence those we honor in the Park. The Pledge of Allegiance followed the moment of silence.

President Hansen welcomed the visitors and Mr. Switzer remarked that he has had many out-of-town visitors comment that on the appearance of the Park. He said the Park has never looked better and the recently trimmed hedges look great.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the April 11, 2017 board meeting were presented for approval. **Motion by David Glassman to approve minutes as presented. Second by Peter Frano. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Secretary's Report:** Jim Murphy reported on the following:

- Both State of Florida annual reports were submitted and fees paid.
- All past meeting minutes are now posted to the Park website. A brief discussion resulted regarding posting meeting agendas to the website. There was consensus that agendas will be posted once released by President Hansen.

**Treasurer's Report:** Pete Frano reported total assets of \$53,781.85. A payment of \$771.00 is pending for mulch for the upcoming project above The Wall South.

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

- Demonstrated a presentation he prepared which discusses recent achievements / completed projects and projects pending sufficient funding. The presentation will be given to the Appleyard group and may be used to provide information to other local philanthropic organizations.
- He was recently introduced to a new women Veterans group that wants to conduct a 5K as a fundraiser. They had approached the City about using Admiral Mason Park and were told there would be a \$500 fee. Veterans Memorial Park is a possible alternate or joint location for their 5K.
- He is preparing input for an Escambia County grant which is due by the end of the month.
- He recently attended an Impact 100 workshop and was a panel member. He has submitted a Letter of Intent for this year's Impact 100 grants and will submit an application for the restroom project.
- He has been in contact with the local Harley Owners Group chapter. They would like to fly a flag at the Park when they take possession of it as it travels the country. He would like to have a formal flag folding ceremony as part of that event.
- He read a letter from the pastor of Grace Lutheran Church received after the Easter Sunrise Service.
- President Hansen recognized Mr. Norm "Frenchy" LaFontaine to discuss an ongoing project. Mr. LaFontaine addressed the Board regarding plans for the 22 plaques which will be in the ground in front of The Wall South. Several options for using the plaques as a fundraiser were discussed.



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- President Hansen discussed the draft program for the Memorial Day ceremony. This resulted in a discussion regarding several of the events to take place during the ceremony.

Committee Reports

City: Bills Weeks was not present.

Events: Were discussed during the Presidents's report.

Maintenance and Planning: Peter McKanna reported on the following:

- The area for memorial tiles below the Marine Corps Aviation Bell Tower Some was mapped to see how many could be sold and placed there.
- The hedges have been trimmed and are turning back to green.
- Sod was installed on April 22 where needed at the north end of The Wall South.
- The Board needs to confirm a location with the City for the proposed restrooms.
- The mulch above The Wall South will be delivered on Friday, April 26 and spread on Saturday, April 27. He has secured some volunteers from Omega Delta Phi and Warren Palmer is coordinating with several organizations for more volunteers.

Technology: David Glassman reported on the following:

- He will provide a photograph of the possibly incorrect army insignia on the Army Memorial Bench and provide it to General Ferguson who will confirm the insignia with the U.S. Army office of heraldry.
- He recommends Saturday, August 9, for the ceremony to place memorial tiles at the Marine Corps Aviation Bell Tower that were approved recently. That date is the fifth anniversary of the dedication of that Memorial.

Finance and Marketing: Roberto Rivera was not present.

President Hansen commented that he had been in touch with the City regarding Blues in the City and recommended the July or August event take place in the Park.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for May 9, 2017 at 3:30PM.

Submitted by:

James M. Murphy