



VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK FOUNDATION OF PENSACOLA, INC.
Board of Directors Meeting, August 10, 2017
MINUTES

Board Members Present

Butch Hansen, Michael Swinehart, David Glassman, Peter Frano, Peter McKanna, Jim Murphy, Jim Durr, Roberto Rivera.

Board Members Absent

Paul Entrekin, Lisa Rawson, Joe Glover, Jack Brown, and Bill Weeks.

Guest(s) Present

PHC Art Gibberson, USN, Retired, local author; Norm "Frenchy" LaFontaine, Lenny Collins, Gabe Fitch, and Doc Dodge, Marine Corps League; Mr. Robert Foster, U.S. Army Veteran and Veteran service professional; LCDR Robert Donofrio, USN, Retired; Veterans Bill Cody and Wendell Slater, Digipro; 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 9:33 a.m. and asked those present to observe a moment of silence for those we memorialize in the Park, especially Sgt. Jonathon Michael Hunter and Spc. Christopher Michael Harris, 82nd airborne Divison, recently KIA in Kandahar, Afghanistan. The Pledge of Allegiance followed the moment of silence.

The meeting was convened at Veterans Memorial Park in advance of a site visit by representatives of Impact 100.

President Hansen welcomed the visitors and recognized Art Gibberson and Lenny Collins. Art and Lenny gave a brief exolanation of the history of The Wall South and their involvement in getting it funded and built. They highlight the 25th Anniversary of The Wall South's dedication occurring on October 24, 2017. They recommended some type of plaque be created and enshrined at the Park recognizing the group of citizens responsible for The Wall South's existence. The cost of a bronze plaque was estimated to be \$500 to \$600. **David Glassman made a motion to fund the plaque. Second by Jim Durr. The motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Robert Foster was introduced by David Glassman. Mr. Foster spoke briefly about the free entrepreneur consulting he provides for Veterans in conjunction with UWF.

Minutes: The minutes of the July 18, 2017 board meeting were presented for approval. **Motion by Michael Swinehart to approve minutes as presented. Second by Pete Frano. The motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report: Pete Frano did not have the financial report on hand but reported the 2017 finances continue to be very positive and a full report will be presented at the next meeting.

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

- A citizen complaint was forwarded from the Mayor's office. A citizen complained that the operation during which one of the GWOT Veterans we memorialize at the Park was incorrect. There was a brief discussion about the sometimes changing names of the various GWOT operations. President Hansen will investigate further and determine the correct operation name for each of the GWOT Memorial plaques.
- Kiosk signage needs to be improved. Many Park visitors are unaware of the kiosk functions and means to make donations. President Hansen will prepare a new sign.
- Tours Unlimited reported they will bring 20-30 senior citizens to the Park for a visit on August 26, 2017.
- The ESCAROSA homeless organization wants to conduct an awareness walk in/around the Park in in November in conjunction with National Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week. They are already approved by the City to use Admiral Mason Park and want to also use Veterans Memorial Park. **David Glassman made a motion to allow the walk. Second by Jim Durr. The motion carried.**



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- Made another call for new Board member applications. Four current members will leave the Park in November when their terms end. Applications will be considered in October and new terms will begin in November.

Committee Reports

Events: David Glassman delivered an extensive review of the timeline for the upcoming ceremony at the Marine Aviation Bell Tower on August 19, 2017. The event will begin at 10:00 a.m. and is expected to last about 40 minutes. Board members are requested to be in place in the Gulf Power lobby at 8:30 a.m. There will be a Toast to the Fallen at Pensacola Bay Brewery after the ceremony with a reception to follow at the Fish House.

Merchandise: Bob Rivera provided an update on patches and pins being made for sale. Potential income from each item is \$1,500.

Maintenance: Pete McKanna reported that one light on The Wall South needs to be replaced. He can get this completed for \$1,394.00. **Motion by Pete McKanna to fund this repair. Second by Pete Frano. The motion carried.**

No further committee Reports were requested due to time constraints in anticipation of the Impact 100 representatives arriving at 10:30 a.m.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 10:28 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for August 29, 2017 at 3:30PM.

Submitted by:

James M. Murphy