



VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK FOUNDATION OF PENSACOLA, INC.
Board of Directors Meeting, June 13, 2017
MINUTES

Board Members Present

Butch Hansen, Michael Swinehart, David Glassman, Peter Frano, Peter McKanna, Paul Entrekin, Roberto Rivera, Lisa Rawson, Jack Brown, Joe Glover.

Board Members Absent

Jim Murphy, Jim Durr.

Guest(s) Present

Terry Runyan, Vietnam Vets/Legacy Vets MC; Nancy Prevant The HER Foundation of Northwest Florida; sgt Major (ret) Pruitt; Bob Dinafrio, Bill Cody, 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 3:30 p.m. and asked those present to observe a moment of silence for those we honor in the Park, and recent combat deaths Spc. Etienne J. Murphy, Sgt. Eric M. Houck, 25, of Baltimore, Maryland; Sgt. William M. Bays, 29 of Barstow, California; Corporal Dillon C. Baldrige, 22 of Youngsville, North Carolina. The Pledge of Allegiance followed the moment of silence.

President Hansen welcomed the visitors and reminded all those in attendance. Mr. Terry Runyan Vietnam Vets/Legacy Vets MC, presented a donation of \$1000 to the foundation, and indicated the Harley Davidson of Pensacola may be providing a similar donation as a result of their Memorial Day ride.

President Hansen asked Dave Glassman to lead the discussion of the USMC Aviation Memorial Tile Placement Ceremony scheduled for August 19th, and to update the board on the master planning initiative with guests Donafrio and Cody. Dave Glassman reported that the Cohen Group representatives were briefed on the demographics and survey results that supported a Cohen Center facility in Pensacola for Veterans Mental Health treatments. The results were very positive, and preliminary discussions with University of West Florida MSW programs and Bridgeway Mental Health were also well received and show great potential for collaboration. A meeting with Gulf Power representatives, the neighbor of the Park, are scheduled for Thursday June 15th. A draft program and schedule of events for a ceremony on August 19th at the Marine Aviation Bell tower to honor the 19 Marines who perished in recent missions. Alternative vendors for the specified tiles were reviewed and final quotes will be available for review and decision by the next meeting. Other ceremony participants have been identified and coordination with Gulf Power for use of their lobby on the day of the ceremony is in progress.

Minutes: The minutes of the May 23, 2017 board meeting were presented for approval. **Motion by Michael Swinehart to approve minutes as presented. Second by Lisa Rawson. The motion carried unanimously.**

Treasurer's Report: Pete Frano reported total income for this year is currently >15,000.00, including \$1404 received from online donations. The current account balance is \$48,500 not including the \$1200 in donations received today.

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

- Nothing to report regarding Park security.
- The walk-thru with the City Parks representative and the lawn maintenance vendor occurred and was successful. The city has received a satisfactory quote from the vendor for the combination of the maintenance contract with Admiral Mason Park. Work will begin by the new contractor no later than October 1st, and sooner if funding in this fiscal year is identified. This will save the Foundation significant expense in landscaping and irrigation system expenses.
- President Hansen is completing the Impact 100 grant application. He is awaiting a revised quote from the construction contractor, before the Jun 16, 2017, deadline.
- The Memorial Day Ceremony was reviewed to see if there are areas for improvement and ideas for next year. All members thought the ceremony went well. Over \$600 in merchandise was sold, and it was suggested that lapel pins with the Park logo be added as an item for sale. Bob Rivera will get designs and



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quotes for this item. It was also suggested that the foundation get a “square” to allow credit card use to purchase items and increase sales. Warren Palmer will provide an inventory of remaining merchandise to determine what needs to be replenished.

Lisa Rawson suggested we add time for the boardmembers to meet and congratulate the student essay contest winners and their parents. It was suggested that this occur before the ceremony at Veterans Day and Memorial day. Additionally, there was discussion about meeting with and approaching more local JROTC instructors about getting more high school participation in our essay contests. Points of contact and outreach to these instructors will be developed with the assistance of Bob Rivera and Dave Glassman to facilitate these discussions.

- Congressman Gaetz representative contacted the Foundation to schedule a recognition event on Monday, June 19th, to present an award to a local sailor who was instrumental in saving the life of a young girl.
- President Hansen reviewed the term lengths of current board members and noted 4 members, Mike Swinehart, Bob Rivera, Dave Glassman, and Joe Glover would complete their second terms at the end of this year, and that per the bylaws they would have to drop off of the board. Also, that the bylaws specify the last meeting in October as the time to vote on applications for new board members for the next year. All members were encouraged to identify people that would be good replacements for these members and have them submit applications by October.

Committee Reports

Maintenance and Planning: Peter McKanna reported on the following:

- The upcoming project to replace sod is scheduled for this Saturday June 17th. Discussions with the new landscaper and the city Parks representative indicated that zoysia grass is the best fit for this region, and discussions with woerner Garden Center indicated a price \$360 more for 8 pallets of zoysia v. centipede. **Motion by Mr. Frano to spend \$360.00 for eight pallets of zoysia. Second by Mr McKanna . Motion carried 6-3. (Entekin, Swinehart, Rivera opposed)**

Technology: David Glassman reported that the web site would be updated to reflect the upcoming Marine aviation Memorial Tile ceremony on August 19th.

Pete McKanna raised the suggestion that videos should be added to the student essay and art contest, as is done by the Vietnam Memorial Organization in Washington, DC to encourage more older students to participate. There was discussion about the pros and cons of this, and it will be part of future discussions when planning for Veterans Day events.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for June 27, 2017 at 3:30PM.

Submitted by:

W.A. Hansen