



VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK FOUNDATION OF PENSACOLA, INC.
Board of Directors Meeting, June 27, 2017
MINUTES

Board Members Present

Butch Hansen, Michael Swinehart, David Glassman, Paul Entrekin, Jim Murphy, Jim Durr, Roberto Rivera.

Board Members Absent

Peter Frano, Peter McKanna, Lisa Rawson, Joe Glover, Jack Brown, and Bill Weeks.

Guest(s) Present

Larry Percy, Marine Corps and Vietnam Veteran; 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 3:30 p.m. and asked those present to observe a moment of silence for those we honor in the Park. The Pledge of Allegiance followed the moment of silence.

President Hansen welcomed the visitors and asked for any presentations/statement. Larry Percy recently moved to Navarre and is an old Marine Shipmate of Frenchy LaFontaine and is interested in getting involved in the community. Frenchy LaFontaine discussed a possible fundraiser selling Medal of Honor books he has on hand from Doc Ballard. Selling the books would not require any investment and Doc Ballard only asked for about \$50 per book, to his non-profit which provides cemetery services for Veterans, to cover his purchase costs and shipping. The three different books will sell for prices tied to their value as some are higher quality and/or rarer than others. Frenchy has approximately 100 of the highest quality books and 200 hundred of the other two books. Marketing would be done on the VMPF website and Frenchy will handle order fulfillment. **Motion by Paul Entrekin to sell the books as a fundraiser for the Foundation. Second by Jim Durr. The motion carried unanimously.**

Minutes: The minutes of the June 13, 2017 board meeting were presented for approval. **Motion by Michael Swinehart to approve minutes as presented. Second by Paul Entrekin. The motion carried unanimously.**

Treasurer's Report: Pete Frano was out of town. President Hansen reported 2017 donation to date were about \$22,000 and expenses were about \$16,000. The current balance on hand is a little over \$49,000.

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

- Nothing to report regarding Park security.
- The state registration for the Foundation's trailer was paid for two years.
- The Impact 100 grant for the restroom project was submitted on time and accepted after one minor correction.
- Still awaiting word on a grant request from Escambia County.
- No word from the City about funds availability to take over Park maintenance before 01 October.
- The sod project went very well. The Letters of Appreciation for the military volunteers were signed and Master Guns Rivera will distribute them. Address needed for the UWF fraternity volunteers.
- A plaque expressing the Foundation's appreciation was prepared for presentation to American Awards. American Awards donated all of the trophies and medals for the Memorial Day essay contest.
- There has been no further word from Skopelos about a possible fundraiser.
- President Hansen raised the issue of the day for the 2018 Memorial Day observance. Previous discussions reflected a desire among some board members to conduct the ceremony on Monday, Memorial Day, instead of on Sunday. This led to a brief discussion. In absence of a motion to change the day of the ceremony, the 2018 observance will be held on Sunday.



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Committee Reports

Maintenance and Planning: Peter McKanna was absent while caring for his mother out of state.

Technology: No report was given.

Events: David Glassman reported on the following

- Discussed the upcoming ceremony at the Marine Aviation Bell Tower scheduled for August 19, 2017. I discussed of the logistics and scheduling followed.

Merchandise: Bob Rivera reported on the following

- Discussed estimated costs for a Park lapel pin and other possible merchandise to be used to raise funds. He will have cost estimates at the next meeting.

Before adjourning, President Hansen reminded the Board members that the term of four members expire in the fall. He asked all members to recruit at least one applicant for membership to be voted on in October. This led to another discussion about the need for two meeting each month or if one meeting is sufficient. No firm decision was made but this topic will be discussed again.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for July 18, 2017 at 3:30PM.

Submitted by:

James M. Murphy