

Veterans Memorial Park Foundation of Pensacola, Inc.

Minutes

Tuesday, March 8, 2016

9:00 A.M.

Vince Whibbs Conference Room

1st Floor City Hall

Board Members Present

Butch Hansen, John B. Clark, David Glassman, Peter McKanna, Paul Entrekin, Michael Swinehart, Paul Brown, Lisa Rawson, Roberto Rivera and Bill Weeks (City Representative),

Board Members Absent

John Ochs, Joe Glover, Ed Holt (Legal Advisor) and Jack Brown (Immediate Past President).

Guest(s) Present

Dottie Dubuisson

Charlie Switzer

Warren Palmer

M. Helen Gibson, CRA

(Motions and actions taken are listed in red)

Call to Order and Welcome: The meeting was called to order at 9:00 by Board President Butch Hansen who led those present in a moment of silence for those we honor at the Park and their families, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Hansen reported that:

- He, Paul Entrekin and Peter McKanna will be meeting with Randy New, sculptor for the Global War on Terror (GWOT) monument, and STOA representatives to discuss the proposed monument.
- Lots of progress has been made on the Friends of Park (FOP) and the website update.
- He gave a tour of the Park for some skateboarders.
- He submitted a grant to the downtown Rotary Club and the City of Pensacola. He is also working on one with the County.
- The Combat Veterans Motorcycle Group is ready to submit a grant to their national organization and needed more information which he provided for them.
- Jack Brown is home and doing much better.
- John Ochs reported that his disease isn't getting worse, but unfortunately is not getting any better. He will be going to Tulane for further treatments.
- Former NAS Base Commander, retired Navy Captain Peter Frano, has submitted an application for board membership. Any other candidates should get with President Hansen.
- No further information on the workshop scheduled on the Hawkshaw property.
- A request came from a sorority at Pensacola Christian College (PCC) that wanted to volunteer at the Park. Peter McKanna has contacted them.

Visitor Acknowledgement and Presentations: President Hansen welcomed visitors present.

Helen Gibson with the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) spoke briefly about a new non-profit group that is working on establishing a new Chappie James museum in his former house on Martin Luther King Boulevard. She has met with this group and suggested that they meet with some of our members who could, perhaps, serve as mentors to them in their efforts. President Hansen offered to meet with their representatives.

President Hansen noted that he will be out of the country on March 29 and we should have a representative at the CRA meeting. Lisa Rawson volunteered to attend in his absence. President Hansen will draft talking points.

Minutes: The minutes of the February 23 board meeting were presented for approval. **Motion by Paul Entrekin to approve minutes as presented. Second by Peter McKanna. Motion Carried.**

Treasurer's Report: Paul Brown reported that we have a current bank balance of \$65,277.37, but have a year to date loss of \$9,566.58.

Events: Roberto Rivera

- Has scheduled the Marine Color Guard for Memorial Day. Has also taken care of the 21 gun salute and taps.
- Will order more hats when he can do an order greater than 36 as the price goes down.
- Boy Scouts of the Pensacola Bay District will do a flag retirement ceremony early in the morning of Memorial Day. David Glassman will post photos of this ceremony on the website as well as other information on the Memorial Day event.
- Briefly discussed reunions which are using the Park for various events.

Maintenance and Planning: Peter McKanna

- Will work with Paul Brown on a new strategy for resolving the differences among the various list of names for addition to the Wall South.
- IMPACT grant: may save money because we plan to do directional boring; saving money on electrical and irrigation.
- Was some discussion about doing more comprehensive sodding at the Park for appearances; no decision was made.

Technology: David Glassman

- Has received comments on website changes and will be ready to go live shortly.
- Hopes to have the Friends of the Park (FOP) page for review by the next meeting.
- Considerable discussion regarding proposed essay contest (attached); discussion on who to target (schools, ROTC groups, etc.), judging criteria, time frame, use of a video for presentations and deadline. There was general consensus to proceed with contest.
- Has not received feedback from the Veterans Flight group (Roy Kinsey); however, we could partner with them by placing information on our website.
- Announced that DigiPro has been awarded an \$8,000 grant that will pay 50% of cost to train a qualified veteran for jobs with the company.

Adjournment:

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:10. Next meeting is March 22, 2016 at 9:00AM.

Submitted by:
John B. Clark

These minutes were approved by the VMP Board of Directors on March 22, 2016.