



VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK FOUNDATION OF PENSACOLA, INC.  
Board of Directors Meeting, November 30, 2017  
MINUTES

**Board Members Present**

Butch Hansen, Jim Murphy, Nancy Bullock-Prevot, Paul Entrekin, Michael Swinehart, Jim Durr, Andy Caputi, Peter McKanna, Stacy Pruitt, Lisa Rawson, and Dave Glassman.

**Board Members Absent**

Pete Frano, Richard Penrose, Bill Weeks (City Representative), and Ed Holt (legal advisor).

**Guest(s) Present**

Jack Brown; Bob Rivera; Sally Rivera; Sandra Durr; and Warren Palmer (volunteer coordinator).

(Motions and actions taken are listed in red)

**Call to Order and Welcome:** President Entrekin called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. and asked those present to observe a moment of silence for those we memorialize in the Park, especially three Sailors lost in a recent C-2 Greyhound mishap – LT Steven Combs, Aviation Boatswain's Mate Airman Matthew Chialastri, and Aviation Ordnanceman Airman Apprentice Bryan Grosso – and also Honorary Marine Jim Nabors. The Pledge of Allegiance followed the moment of silence.

President Entrekin welcomed the visitors and Paul Entrekin introduced his wife, Sandra, who attended in honor of President Entrekin's first meeting. Bob Rivera introduced his wife, Sally, who attended in honor of her husband being honored for his prior service to the Board. Warren Palmer commented that we continue to need volunteers for projects in the Park. President Entrekin then asked Immediate Past President Hansen to present Bob Rivera with a photo of the Park in recognition of Bob's service on the Board and within the Park. Butch Hansen made remarks about Bob and later commented about the recent C-2 mishap, specifically that one of the lost Sailors, AOAA Grosso, was a Pensacola native and son of the former Naval Air Station Pensacola Command Master Chief, Jeff Grosso.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the November 09, 2017 board meeting were presented for approval. **Motion by Jim Durr to approve minutes as presented. Second by Stacy Pruitt. The motion carried.**

**Treasure's Report:** Pete Frano was not present but President Entrekin reported the current balance is \$46,916.31 and income since the last report was \$2,833.00. Butch Hansen remarked that an audit of the pledges for the recent plaque/brick project is needed to ensure all pledges were followed by checks in the correct amount. It was reported that two pledges were not kept so two bricks remain available. It was also reported that Admiral Booth recently made an unsolicited \$100.00 contribution.

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

- There are no new security issues.
- President Entrekin recently spoke with Randy New, the architect of the forthcoming GWOT Memorial, who has an idea for a new monument in the Park. This monument is related to the ongoing local discussion about removal of the Confederate statue in Pensacola. Mr. New has an idea for a Civil War Memorial which would include the Confederate Soldier currently on Palafox Street and a new Union Soldier statue. Mr. New will make a presentation at the next Board meeting with a proposed memorial. This item led to a lengthy discussion. Lisa Rawson expressed serious concerns over potential vandalism and civil unrest in the Park, and significant negative publicity, if a Confederate monument were erected. There are no current plans for a Civil War Memorial and the Board will wait until Mr. New makes his presentation and then follow the established procedures for considering new memorials/monuments in the Park.
- The Foundation is still in need of a policy regarding installation of bricks around the Marine Aviation Bell Tower. Dave Glassman provided an update on potential layouts for new tiles and replacement of existing tiles. Two options will be presented at the next Board meeting and a program/policy on future installation will follow.



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Committee Reports

**City:** Bill Weeks was not present but reported no new issues to the President. Butch Hansen commented that he had recently spoken with City Administrator Eric Olson who asked if the Board had any interest in taking over care and custody of the Missing Children's Memorial which is across Bayfront Parkway. There appears to be a problem with vagrancy and vandalism of that memorial which the City is interested in solving.

**Events:** Wreaths Across America will be laying wreaths in the Park on December 16. Pete McKanna's items were covered during the President's Report.

**Operations Officer:** Pete McKanna reported on the following:

- All 22 plaques in the recent project had commitments but two were retracted. Those brocks remain available.
- The Purple Heart monument is in need of maintenance to revitalize the purple and gold coloring. The refurbishment cost is estimated at \$600.00 and Marcus Michles has committed to funding that project.
- Restrooms are still needed at the Park. There is a possibility of receiving money for that project from the City Parks and Recreation Department from Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) funds. Butch Hansen will check into that further.
- There was a brief discussion about the Hawkshaw property which is believe to be sold but the sale has apparently not yet been closed.
- There continues to be a strong demand for volunteers and sources of volunteers by Pete McKanna and Warren Palmer. Several options for acquiring and managing volunteers were discussed.

**Technology:** Dave Glassman reported on the following:

- Led a further discussion on the Marine Aviation Bell Tower. More information will be available at the next meeting.
- We currently have over 2,600 likes on Facebook and all ratings are 5 stars except two which are 4 stars. DigiPro Media will restart digital analytics in 2018.
- The names of donors who sponsored bricks in front of The Wall South are on the Park website and Dave is getting more information on each brick, specifically what event it recognizes, from Frenchy LaFontaine.
- Butch Hansen commented that there remains a desire among Park visitors to search for names on The Wall South via mobile phones. Dave Glassman will look into the cost of providing that service.
- Nancy Bullock-Prevot asked about the possibility of selling Park merchandise online. That led to a brief discussion about previous attempts and the managerial roadblocks to doing so.
- It was reported that many merchandise sales were lost during Veterans Day due to visitors wanting to use a card for payment. Richard Penrose is looking into getting a Square account for this purpose.

**Finance and Marketing:** No report was given.

President Entrekin led a discussion of on the Global War on Terror Memorial before closing the meeting. The eagle has is expected to be delivered in mid-January at the latest. There is a possibility of selling miniature versions of the Memorial as a fundraiser and a proposal will be presented to the Board at a later date. The plaque for the Memorial will cost \$1,300.00; Butch Hansen and Jim Murphy will work on the text for that plaque for consideration by the Board.

There was no business from the floor.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 14, at 3:30PM.

Submitted by:  
James M. Murphy