



VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK FOUNDATION OF PENSACOLA, INC.
Board of Directors Meeting, September 14, 2017
MINUTES

Board Members Present

Butch Hansen, Michael Swinehart, Peter Frano, Jim Murphy, Peter McKanna, Jim Durr, Roberto Rivera, Paul Entrekin, and Bill Weeks (City representative).

Board Members Absent

David Glassman, Lisa Rawson, Joe Glover, and Ed Holt (legal advisor).

Guest(s) Present

Lenny Collins, Gloria Collins, Donnie Kimball, Forrest Holt, Jim Shirley, Tiffany Joyner, Frenchy LaFontaine, Stacy Pruitt (prospective board member), Bob Foster (prospective board member), 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 memorialize in the Park, especially Staff Sgt. Emil Rivera-Lopez, recently KIA in Yemen. The Pledge of Allegiance followed the moment of silence.

President Hansen took advantage of a Wall South discussion to mention the Wall South sidewalk plaque project/fundraiser. As of the today, one plaque has been sold if the project is approved. All 22 need to be sold before any will be produced. It is believed the service emblems will sell quickly leaving 17 additional plaques.

Motion by Paul Entrekin to go forward with the project and sale. Second by Michael Swinehart. The motion carried unanimously.

Forrest Holt was recognized and reminded the Board that the Aircraft Firefighters reunion will be held next week. There will be a memorial service held at the Marine Aviation Memorial Bell Tower on Thursday, 21 September, at 6:00 p.m.

Lenny Collins was recognized next and discussed the 25th anniversary of the Wall South and asked about the schedule for the Veterans Day ceremony. He asked if it would be alright to place a wreath near the flagpole for Veterans and family members to place a flower on the wreath. He believes with promotion this could encourage additional attendance. Gloria Collins also mentioned the the local Young Marines offered to participate in the ceremony.

Bob Foster and Stacy Pruitt, applicants for Board membership, individually addressed the Board. They gave brief biographies and discussed ways they would like to contribute to the Board. President Hansen used this opportunity to discuss the current Board openings after the bylaws were changed during the last meeting. Four members' terms are expiring this year; one of those members definitely wants to remain on for another term; and there are two vacancies.

Minutes: The minutes of the August 29, 2017 board meeting were presented for approval. **Motion by Michael Swinehart to approve minutes as presented. Second by Paul Entrekin. The motion carried.** Jim Murphy discussed the recent Chief Petty Officer Selectee project at the Park and shared that the Pensacola CPOs plan to continue the annual event.

Treasurer's Report: Pete Frano informed the Board that the \$5,000.00 from the Sheriff's Law Enforcement Trust had been received along with three electronic checks and cash donations at the Park kiosk. We remain way ahead this year comparing income against expenses. The current balance is \$49,448.23.



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

- He reminded the Board members about the City council meeting with boards scheduled for 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 26, with a reception to follow.
- There is nothing new regarding security.
- Presented a draft a instructions for use of the kiosk to be placed at the kiosk. Bill Weeks will check to see about the City producing the 8.5" x 11" sign.
- He is trying to clean up the law in the agreement with the City now that the City is taking over lawn maintenance on October 1. He and Ed Holt will meet with the City once the proposed new language is drafted.
- The stencil for the engraving for the Wall South 25th anniversary plaque will be ready soon. This will be the last opportunity for quality assurance.
- Randy New, the GWOT Memorial designer, presented a new design that would provide a significantly less expensive option for either a permanent or temporary memorial. President Hansen shared the design – an eagle clutching a World Trade Center artifact. The cost of the eagle is approximately \$25,000.00. There would be additional costs for mounting and lighting. **Motion by Paul Entrekin to get a sense of the Board's desire to investigate the total costs of purchasing the eagle and using it to create a memorial. Second by Roberto Rivera. The motion carried unanimously.**

Committee Reports

City: Bill Weeks reported there were no new issues. He is also unaware of any final decision by the CRA on the sale of the Hawkshaw property. President Hansen reminded him that once the property is sold, parking for Park visitors will be a concern.

Events: President Hansen reviewed several upcoming events and and groups that have visits planned.

Merchandise: No report was given.

Maintenance: Pete McKanna reported on the following:

- The areas to be painted have been measured and total approximately 4,400 square feet. A local Sherwin Williams sore will inspect the areas to determine the product/s needed for painting.
- He remains concerned with the new lawn maintenance and wants to ensure the new contractor maintains the same standard that has been set. President Hansen and Pete McKanna will probably meet with the contractor at the Park to ensure they understand the current condition of the Park and expectations for the future.

Technology: Dave Glassman was not present.

President Hansen closed the meeting by letting the members know the bathroom project was not a finalist for an Impact 100 grant.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 4:56 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 28, at 3:30PM. This will be an Executive Committee meeting but all members are invited to attend.

Submitted by:

James M. Murphy