



VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK FOUNDATION OF PENSACOLA, INC.  
Board of Directors Meeting, April 26, 2018  
MINUTES

**Board Members Present**

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

**Board Members Absent**

David Glassman, Bill Weeks (City Representative), and Ed Holt (legal advisor).

**Guest(s) Present**

Quinn Stinson (resident and local business owner); Charlie Switzer (past Board member); Robert Bender (local citizen); Capt Kit Zipf, USMC and Capt Chris Comeau, USMC (Wingman Foundation); Bob Rivera; 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 to honor the Fallen. The Pledge of Allegiance followed the moment of silence.

President Entrekin recognized the visitors and asked if any had presentations. Quinn Stinson addressed the Board regarding his displeasure with the paint color in front of the Submarine and Purple Heart Memorials. Mr. Stinson does not feel the red color provides the same serene atmosphere he previously felt in the Park. He said that he and his employees would be willing to repaint the areas. This led to a lengthy discussion on the history of paint in various parts of the Park. President Entrekin asked if Mr. Stinson, using his expertise in design, would be willing to present potential color options to the Board at the next meeting; Mr. Stinson said he would.

Captains Kit Zipf and Chris Comeau, instructor pilots at Whiting Field, informed the Board of an upcoming 20 mile walk they are conducting to support the Wingman Foundation which supports servicemembers and their families. This event will coincide with a similar walk conducted in Washington DC. The event is scheduled to begin at Marine Aviation Memorial Bell Tower at 7:00am on May 19. That is the same time as the HER Foundation 5K run. The Captains will coordinate with Nancy Bullock-Prevot to deconflict their events (they later changed the start time of their event to 9:00am.)

Charlie Switzer briefly spoke regarding the Walk of Honor and presented the Board a check for \$750.00 toward that fundraising project. Mr. Switzer also introduced Mr. Robert Bender, an Escambia County resident and candidate for the Escambia County Commission who spoke about his family's military history and his support of the Park and the Foundation's efforts.

**Secretary's Report:** The minutes from the April 12, 2018 meeting were presented. An error in the date in the header was noted and will be corrected before the minutes are posted to the website. **Motion to accept the minutes as presented with one correction was made by Michael Swinehart. Second by Richard Penrose. The motion carried.** Jim Murphy reported that the mail box rental and State registrations are paid for the year. One registration was filed with an extension due to the Foundation taxes not yet being completed. The completed tax return is expected in advance of the May 15 deadline for charitable organizations.

**Treasurer's Report:** Pete Frano reported the current balance is \$26,674.

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

- There are no security reports from Signal 88.
- The issue of skateboarding in City parks and Veterans Memorial Park has been in the news. Butch Hansen reported the City will enforce a skateboarding ban in the Park.

**Committee Reports**

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

- City Manager Eric Olson offered to provide No Skateboarding signs for the Park.
- Spoke briefly about positive comments and two on-the-spot donations received from Park visitors during the recent volunteer event.



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PENSACOLA, FLORIDA

- Led a discussion about which Park photograph and an engraving to present to the Memorial Day guest Speaker (Mayor Hayward).
- All of the lights on the Wall South are currently working.
- The City turned down the recent sod replacement proposal but approved a hybrid fertilization plan to be carried out by the landscaping contractor.
- The recent volunteer event on April 21 was the largest in the history of the Foundation with 78 volunteers, not counting children and Board members. The work done by Josh Spinner from Spinner Construction were specifically noted.
- The Walk of Honor press release is ready for Monday, April 30. After discussion of possibilities to advertise the brick sponsorship at the Park, **Stacy Pruitt made a motion to authorize the Operations Officer to research acquiring yard signs. Second by Lisa Rawson. The motion carried.** Pete McKanna will present a design and cost at the next meeting.
- The Board needs to reiterate that vehicles are not allowed inside the Park. Last year, a vehicle broke three commercial sprinkler heads which cost \$375.00 to replace. Bob Rivera will relay this message to the Marine Corps League during Heroes Among Us discussions.
- Alan Jones has volunteered to reshoot all new photographs of the Park for use on the website now that significant maintenance has been completed.

**Military Liaison:** Stacy Pruitt discussed the following:

- Nothing more to report on the Cobra.
- Everything appears to be lined up for Memorial Day. Butch Hansen mentioned that the Mayor is excited to speak at the event and is happy with the progress made on Park maintenance.

**Vice President:** Michael Swinehart reported on the following:

- Nothing more to report on the GWOT media event. A press release regarding the unveiling before Memorial Day will be ready.

**Technology:** David Glassman was not present.

**Finance and Marketing:** A chairperson is still needed for this committee.

**Merchandise:** No report.

**Public Affairs:** No report.

**City:** Bill Weeks was not present.

**Legal:** Ed holt was not present.

**Business from the floor:**

- Warren Palmer discussed some Park visitors he recently met from South Africa. They are currently traveling to several U.S. destinations and blogging about their trip. They plan to write a book when they return home and plan to include the Park in the book.
- Lisa Rawson reported that this year's Memorial Day student contest focused on younger students and artwork.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 4:56p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 10, at 3:30p.m.

Submitted by:

James M. Murphy