



VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK  
PENSACOLA, FLORIDA

## VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK FOUNDATION OF PENSACOLA, INC.

Board of Directors Meeting, January 10, 2019  
MINUTES

### Board Members Present

Paul Entrekin, Andy Caputi, Pete Frano, Peter McKanna, Jim Murphy, Nancy Bullock-Prevot, David Glassman, Jim Durr, Stacy Pruitt, and Butch Hansen (Immediate Past President).

### Board Members Absent

Jill Hubbs, Vernon Stewart (City Representative), and Ed Holt (Legal Representative).

### Guest(s) Present

Ashley Lukasiewicz and Ed Spears (Gold Star Family Memorial); Stan Barnard; Jack Brown; 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 we represent in the Park. The Pledge of Allegiance followed the moment of silence.

Ashley Lukasiewicz inquired about the status of fundraising for the Gold Star Family Memorial Monument. David Glassman referred her to Brent Casey, Executive Director of the Hershel Woody Williams Medal of Honor Foundation. That Foundation is interested in being present for the ground-breaking ceremony for the future Monument in our Park. The total cost of that Monument with lighting is \$109,000.00.

Stan Barnard addressed the Board regarding his desire to build a bridge between the Park and Okaloosa County by including the names of Gulf War KIA troops in the planned Gulf War Memorial if the family members of those troops can be contacted. This would include five additional plaques as part of the Monument. President Entrekin notified Stan and the Board that Mayor Robinson has approved the Gulf War Memorial. He also informed the Board that the City Parks and Recreation Department had requested, through Vernon Stewart, a presentation by the Park Foundation so that they could decide on a making a recommendation to the City Council. This step has never been required for approval of a new monument or memorial and is not required under our license with the City. The actual process is not well defined regarding who has final approval authority. President Entrekin and Butch Hanswen will meet with the Mayor and City Administrator at some future date to discuss the process.

**Secretary's Report:** Jim Murphy will present Minutes from the last meeting and this meeting at the next.

**Treasure's Report:** Pete Frano reported on the following:

- The total funds in all accounts is \$93,305. With earmarks removed, \$51,500 is available.
- The deposit check of \$20,000.00 for the Gulf War Memorial was sent to the sculptor but has not yet been cashed.
- Total funds raised in calendar year 2018 was about \$54,000.
- **The Treasure's report was accepted without objection.**

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

- There have been no new reports from Signal 88.
- There are currently three vacant board positions. This was reported as two vacancies at the last meeting, but because Butch Hansen is a non-voting member, three voting vacancies exist. **Andy Caputi made a motion to vote immediately on Stan Barnard's application for membership. Second by Dave Glassman. The motion carried.** A vote by paper ballot was conducted and Stan Barnard was elected unanimously. President Entrekin administered the oath of office to Stan Barnard who took his place on the Board immediately.

### Committee Reports

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

- Two major clean-up events have been scheduled for this year: April 27 and October 19.



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- He is concerned about the relationship with the City. He tried to contact the sanitation director twice over the holidays with no luck or response. He was also unable to contact Vernon Stewart. His reason for attempting contact was overflowing garbage cans which had not been emptied between the Christmas Tree Lighting event and January 7.
- The pond in Admiral Mason Park is becoming an environmental and aesthetic concern because it is very overgrown. Butch Hansen said he will contact the City Public Works Department. There was also discussion about the monument cutouts that are technically in Admiral Mason Park but were verbally promised to the Foundation; this was never codified in writing.
- Pete thanked everyone who assisted with the Christmas Tree Lighting event. The Pensacola Fire Department enjoyed participating and have already agreed to participate in a similar event in 2019.
- The money raised from Walk of Honor bricks was previously committed to existing Park maintenance projects. His first priority is the Korean War Memorial, specifically lowering the wall that surrounds it and painting that wall and the interior seating. The cost is estimated at \$12,000. His second priority is installing the flags of the five Armed Services outside the entrance perimeter wall (in the grassy areas behind it). The cost is estimated at \$12,456. **Motion by Pete McKanna to purchase and install the service flags. Second by Any Caputi. The motion carried.** President Entrekin later reminded the Board that this project qualified as a Park improvement and will require City approval before moving forward.
- Stacy Pruitt mentioned he recently spoke with the Sertoma club about a possible adopt-a-memorial program as a way to raise funds for specific maintenance projects.

#### **Walk of Honor:** Butch Hansen reported on the following:

- Thirty additional orders have been submitted and the bricks have been shipped. This brings the total bricks sponsored to 257. He mentioned of the desire to have the bricks be searchable on the kiosk using the grid he and his wife are preparing.

#### **Vice President:** Andy Caputi reported on the following:

- The storage unit has been reorganized with shelving purchased using the Home Depot grant. He will complete an inventory of all Foundation tools and equipment.
- Provided background information on how to use the \$5,000.00 Home Depot grant e-card.
- Impact 100 has reviewed and approved the proposed granite marker which will be placed near the kiosk.
- The wreaths laid at the Park by Wreaths Across America are beginning to dry out and not look good. It is believed Wreaths Across America will collect and dispose of these. If they do not, Andy will do so.
- Negotiations with Cox continue for a lower cost internet service. The existing contract is still in force but will expire later this year. He will research the new cost and possible options to Cox.

#### **Past President:** Butch Hansen reported on the following:

- He was contacted by a citizen that has marble purchased overseas that remain in their crates. He will investigate options for using this material in the Park.

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

- The event at the Marine Aviation Memorial Bell Tower in May will honor 167 casualties since September 11, 2001. He has drafted a letter for the Marine Corps Casualty Branch to send to family members announcing the event.

#### **Military Liaison:** Stacy Pruitt had nothing to report.

#### **Marketing/Public Affairs:** Jill Hubbs was not present.



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**Merchandise:** Nancy Bullock-Prevot reported on the following:

- She has completed an inventory of all Foundation sellable assets. She also recommended that we make online sales of these goods possible and will personally handle all order fulfillment. Dave Glassman will get a quote from DigiPro on the cost of adding this functionality to the Foundation website.

**Event Coordinator:** Jill Durr, with input from other Board members, reported on the following:

- April 13, 2019 – Junior League dinner
- May 17, 2019 – Marine Aviation Memorial Bell Tower event
- May 18, 2019 – HER Foundation 5K
- May 27, 2019 – Memorial Day ceremony
- Warren Palmer suggested that the Board should begin considering potential guest speakers for Memorial Day. President Entrekin recommended General Secord since the last two events at which he was invited to speak were cancelled due to weather.
- Pete McKanna recommended that the Board mandate no vehicle be allowed in the Park for any events except as authorized by the Board (set up and tear down, DJs, etc.).
- There remains concern about effectively spreading the word about and raising awareness of the Park and specific events in the community.

**City:** Vernon Stewart was not present.

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

**Business from the floor:** None.

#### **Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 5:53 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 24, at 3:30p.m.

Submitted by:

James M. Murphy