



VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK FOUNDATION OF PENSACOLA, INC.  
Board of Directors Meeting, April 12, 2018  
MINUTES

**Board Members Present**

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

**Board Members Absent**

Jim Durr, Bill Weeks (City Representative), and Ed Holt (legal advisor).

**Guest(s) Present**

Terry Runyon (Viet Nam Vets / Legacy Vets MC), Jilly Hubbs (WSRE), 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 reflect on several aircrews recently lost across four Services (Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps) and to reflect on what we do in Veterans Memorial Park. The Pledge of Allegiance followed the moment of silence.

President Entrekin recognized the visitors and asked if any had presentations. Terry Runyon said the annual Memorial Day motorcycle ride to the Wall South has been coordinated and the Escambia County Sheriff's Office and Pensacola Police Department have been informed. Mr. Runyon expected about 500 motorcycles and has a Chaplain available and interested if there is a place and/or need for him in the ceremony. His organization will also lay a wreath at the Wall South during the ceremony.

Jill Hubbs discussed an idea to conduct a reading of all the names on the Wall South, mimicking something done occasionally at the Vietnam War Memorial. The Board spoke in support of the idea. The event will begin on the afternoon of Sunday, May 20 (the Sunday before the Memorial Day ceremony) and continue daily from 9:00am until 6:00pm, until all the names have been read. If it takes more than one week, readings on Sunday, May 27, will occur after the Memorial Day ceremony.

**Minutes:** No minutes were presented due to the Secretary's absence at the last meeting. There is a recording of that meeting. Jim Murphy reported that a Navy Reserve group was visiting the Park during the meeting as part of a now-annual Prospective Senior Enlisted Leader class.

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

- Two large expenses were recently paid; \$11,000 for the GWOT Memorial eagle and \$2,400 for the Foundation's account.
- The current balance is approximately \$28,000.
- Richard Penrose was asked to update the Board on the Walk of Honor fundraising project. Sales have been slower than hoped but about a dozen bricks have been sold.

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

- Led a discussion on improving sales and messaging for the Walk of Honor project. Several potential ideas were discussed.
- There was nothing to report regarding Park security.
- The Memorial Day ceremony will be held at 1:00pm on Sunday, May 27. Pete Frano will serve as master of ceremonies. Mayor Hayward is tentatively scheduled to be the guest speaker.
- Regarding installation of the GWOT Memorial, President Entrekin simply said "Wow!" Michael Swinehart led a brief discussion regarding a soft unveiling for local media.
- The local Boy Scouts will conduct a flag retirement ceremony on Sunday, May 27.



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**Committee Reports**

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

- There was a volunteer event in the Park about two weeks ago and a lot of work was completed. The next volunteer event will be Saturday, April 21. This will be the largest volunteer event to date with about 50 volunteers. Board members were asked to attend to supervise the work and provide various refreshments. A port-o-potty will be on site for this event.
- The handrails on the ramp were repaired and more metal fixtures were installed to deter skateboarders.
- Alan Jones took photos of the GWOT Memorial for use on the Park website and on coffee mugs used for a fundraiser.

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

- He has a verbal commitment from the Marine Corps on NAS Pensacola to provide a Color Guard, Rifle Detail, and Bugler for Memorial Day. He intends to get this confirmed in writing.

**Technology:** David Glassman discussed the following:

- The kiosk database rebuild is underway but the kiosk remains in operation. He is hoping the new database will be ready and operational by Memorial Day.
- Discussed rough plans for another Marine aviation mishap recognition event on August 19. This year's ceremony will be significantly smaller than last year.

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

**Merchandise:** No report.

**Public Affairs:** No report.

**City:** Bill Weeks was not present. Butch Hansen reported on the following:

- The City council is considering a skateboarding ban in the Park; some City Council members have proposed a ban in all City parks.
- It appears the Pensacola Little Opera is lined up for Memorial Day.
- He is preparing a letter of intent and a grant proposal for Impact 100.

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

Business from the floor: Warren Palmer said there have been two recent reports of a small alligator in the Admiral Mason Park pond.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 5:03p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 26, at 3:30p.m.

Submitted by:

James M. Murphy