

Meeting Minutes
Veterans' Memorial Park Advisory Board Meeting
Friday, December 11, 2009, 7:30 a.m.
Parks and Recreation Office

Members Present: Dave Nordlund, Dwight Hahn, Lawrence Ritz, and Rich Crawford.

Members Absent: Ron Mielke.

Parks and Recreation Staff Present: Don Kearney and Tory Miedema.

Others Present: Bob Jamison.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made to approve the minutes of the October 9, 2009, meeting. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

Eagle Sculpture Donation—Don reported that the department picked up the sculpture yesterday and completed the donation form. Jon Jacobson estimated that it would cost around \$3,900 to install the sculpture in the park. The Board asked staff to get specifications from Jon on the quartzite base so they could request the base to be donated from a local quarry. Staff will also ask Russ Sorenson and other City sources if there are any available stones left over from SculptureWalk or other projects that will work. Recognition of the sculpture donation and other items will need to be discussed further at future meetings. Larry Ritz would like to have the sculpture unveiling as part of the annual Flag Day event at the park.

Interpretive Center Concept Plan—Don and Tory plan to meet with Ron Mielke next week to go over the design agreement. The plan is to make any revisions to the design agreement as needed and have it ready to route by the end of the year. The agreement will be executed in January. The Board would like the final product to be approved by the Park Board following the Veterans' Memorial Park Advisory Board approval. Rich Crawford identified another location he thought would be good for the Interpretive Center. The Board wanted to make sure that the agreement included any civil engineering work needed to identify the best site, including surveying, geotechnical testing, and any major site work needed.

New Business:

Fund-Raising Report—The total to date is \$668,231 with an unspent balance of \$118,539. The Board would also like to emphasize buying pavers "in honor of" active veterans in addition to "in memory of." They are looking for

marketing opportunities to get the message out. City staff is also working on a certificate to give to the purchaser of the paver.

2010 Meeting Calendar—The proposed 2010 meeting calendar was handed out for discussion and approval. A motion was made to approve the 2010 meeting calendar. Motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Public Input: Rex and Marge Roling sent a thank-you letter for the Board's and staff's help in putting the *Going Home* sculpture dedication together. The event was well attended and put together very well.

Bob Jamison received a phone call asking if there was a possibility that a memorial of some sort be put in the park to honor and remember those soldiers that were buried overseas during war. The caller thought there were eight from Minnehaha County. The Board felt the *Going Home* sculpture and the pavers somewhat represented that. The Board is concerned about this request due to the policy set forth restricting individual recognition in the park beyond the pavers. The Board discussed putting a large stone in the paver areas with a general message about the soldiers who didn't return from overseas. They also thought a symbol could be placed on the pavers of those who didn't return with a list in the future Interpretive Center. The Board asked staff to get some possible ideas from Jon Jacobson and to see if anyone has followed up with the caller.

Staff noticed a Merchant Marine plaque had been installed near the Merchant Marine flag. The plaque and its installation has not been discussed or approved by the Board. Nobody knew where the plaque came from or who installed it. A motion was made to remove the plaque and store it at the Parks and Recreation Office. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Dennis Quigley talked to Dave Nordlund about making changes to the Keeble MOH plaque. He would like to discuss these changes with the Board at a future meeting. The Board directed Dave to have Dennis make a written request to bring the item to the Board.

With no further business before the Board, a motion was made to adjourn. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be on **February 12, 2010, at 7:30 a.m.** at the Parks and Recreation Office located at 100 East Sixth Street.

Approved:


President