

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE SIOUX FALLS VETERANS' MEMORIAL PARK ADVISORY BOARD was held on Friday, January 20, 2012, at 7:30 a.m., at the Parks and Recreation Office.

Members present: Ron Mielke, Rick Tupper, and Bob Jamison.

Members absent: Lawrence Ritz.

Parks and Recreation staff present: Don Kearney and Tory Miedema.

Others present: Gene Tornow, newly appointed board member.

Approval of minutes: A motion was made to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2011, meeting. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

Unfinished business:

Interpretive Center: Rick Tupper, Ron Mielke, and Don Kearney provided an update to the Board on the progress of the Interpretive Center based on a meeting the three of them had earlier in the month. Tupper talked about a three-phase vision for the building consisting of the Interpretive Center, a military hall of fame, and an educational component. The Interpretive Center piece would cover the various large-scale wars or conflicts as discussed previously. The military hall of fame would be for regional veterans and would display inductees for one year and then be archived. It would take up a small portion of the building and serve as a great educational resource to visitors. The educational aspect would be a wing dedicated to a research library. It could be tied to the Joe Foss Institute and may become the first branch in South Dakota as they currently do not have a presence in South Dakota. This vision will be discussed and refined in future Board meetings. To make sure it is not perceived as a Sioux Falls only project, buy in from various military groups throughout South Dakota will be important.

The initial proposal would be to set up what could potentially be called the South Dakota Military Heritage Foundation to oversee all the aspects of the Interpretive Center. It would include the fund-raising arm for the construction of the center but also include support for the operations and staffing. A motion was made to allow Tupper and Mielke to continue working on the formation of the foundation as the primary funding arm for the Interpretive Center. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

No new business.

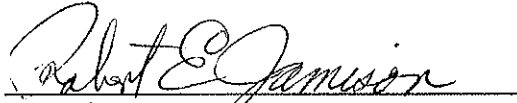
No public input.

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

The next regular meeting is scheduled for **7:30 a.m., February 10, 2012**, at the Parks and Recreation Office, 100 East Sixth Street.

Approved:



President
For Ron Mielke