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MEMORANDUM

TO: Jay Kramer, Mayor and
Vero Beach City Councilmembers

FROM: Anthony Young, Chairman
Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary Advisory Committee

DATE: April 19, 2016

SUBJECT: Funding Request

The Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary Advisory Committee would like permission from the Vero Beach City Council to expend funds from the Veterans Memorial Island account in the amount of up to \$250.00 to replace the cenotaph marker for Joel Preston Keen. The existing marker was made under the name of John A. Keen and the family has asked to have it corrected. This work will be coordinated and done by the City's Public Works Department.

As of the end of February, 2016 the Veterans Memorial Island account reflects a balance of \$11,155.01 with no outstanding expenditures.

Attachments

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**VETERANS MEMORIAL ISLAND SANCTUARY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES
Wednesday, April 6, 2016 – 10:00 a.m.
Council Chambers, City Hall, Vero Beach, Florida**

PRESENT: Chairman, Anthony Young, Vice Chairman, Alma Lee Loy; Members: John Matthews, Joel Herman, and Alternate Member Curtis Paulisin **Also Present:** Recreation Director, Rob Slezak, and Senior Administrative Assistant, Rita Hawkins

Unexcused Absence: Barbara Fallon

1. CALL TO ORDER

Today's meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Committee members and the audience joined together in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A) March 2, 2016

Mr. Mathews made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2016 Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary Advisory Committee meeting. Ms. Loy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

4. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

5. NEW BUSINESS

A) Jay Sample Memorial April 16, 2016 – Mr. Rob Slezak, Recreation Director

Mr. Rob Slezak, Recreation Director, reported that the application for the Jay Sample Memorial on April 16, 2016 has been signed and approved. He said that it will be a simple ceremony.

B) Keen Cenotaph – Mr. Tony Young

Mr. Young reported that they found a cenotaph marker on Veterans Memorial Island with an incorrect name. After several years of research they were able to find a relative who verified that the name reflected on the cenotaph should be Joel Preston Keen. The current marker is displayed as John A. Keen and the family is requesting to have it corrected. The cost of replacing the bronze marker will cost approximately \$150.00 and it will take 6 - 8 weeks to have it made.

Mr. Paulisin made a motion to request the expenditure of funds of up to \$250.00 to update the cenotaph marker for Mr. Keen. Mr. Matthews seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

C) Memorial Day May 30, 2016 – Mr. Sam Kouns

Mr. Sam Kouns, Veterans Council member, announced that the Indian River Veterans Council will present the 2016 Memorial Day Honors on Monday, May 30, 2016 at Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary. The program will be very similar to past Memorial Day ceremonies. The keynote speaker will be retired Air Force Lieutenant Gerald William Walser (spelling may not be correct). They want to honor Scott Owens who was the last deceased Veteran who was recognized with a cenotaph marker. They have invited Ms. Alma Lee Loy to join them on stage and they will be honoring and introducing the Officers of the Veterans Council. Sergeant Perez, Army NCO, will be presenting the wreath this year. The ceremony will start at 9:00 a.m. on Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary.

Mr. Slezak reported that all the paperwork is in order for the ceremony.

Mr. Young reminded the viewing audience to bring their lawn chairs.

D) Committee Calendar – Mr. Tony Young

Mr. Young announced that he is running for City Council and if he is elected he will need to step down from his position on the Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary Advisory Committee. He asked the Committee members to look at the continuity of the Committee to make sure that they are taking the right steps to ensure they have the leadership to continue supervising Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary.

6. OLD BUSINESS

A) CPO Buck McTee Retirement Ceremony June 24, 2016 – Mr. Rob Slezak, Recreation Director

Mr. Slezak reported that the paperwork for Buck McTee's retirement ceremony has been signed and approved. They wanted to rent a stage, but both stages are scheduled for other events. He is trying to provide them with a sound system and a podium for the ceremony.

Mr. Matthews asked what time of day is the ceremony.

Mr. Herman replied that the application states they want to use the Island from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

B) Sanctuary Upkeep – Mr. Don Dexter, Public Works Manager

Mr. Young said that he spoke with Mr. Don Dexter, Public Works Manager, and he reported that the foliage that was growing around the benches near the Lest We Forget Monument has been cleared out and the benches were pressure washed. The water fountain was repaired and it was painted white. The original color was metallic grey, so if they prefer the grey color they will need to bring it to Mr. Dexter's attention. The mangroves have been photographed and the next step is to have a meeting with the Department of Environmental Protection and obtain permits. After that, the City will hire a certified Mangrove Specialist to do the work.

C) Victims' Rights Coalition Ceremony April 14, 2016

Mr. Young asked if there have been any changes to the Victims' Rights Coalition Ceremony.

Mr. Slezak replied no.

7. CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS

A) Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary Veterans Highlight: Levi Laws, John Morris, Fred Woodward, and Joel Keen

Mr. Young stated that he handed out a revised list of three (3) Veterans that were recognized on the Bob Soos show in March (on file in the City Clerk's office). He removed Levi Laws from the list because his biography was read at last month's meeting. Mr. Herman, Mr. Paulisin, and Mr. Matthews each read one of the biographies.

8. MEMBER'S MATTERS

Mr. Paulisin stated that he had the honor of attending the funeral for Mr. Richard Moulton. It was a very nice funeral and his family was very happy that some members of the Veterans Council and the Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary Advisory Committee were there. He had the chance to speak with Mr. Moulton's sons who had some wonderful history to share.

Mr. Matthews commented that Mr. Moulton was the keynote speaker when they did the dedication of the POW/MIA monument on Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary. At that event he shared some interesting stories of his capture and escape.

9. NEXT MEETING DATE

A) Next Meeting Date – May 4, 2016

The next meeting of the Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary Advisory Committee is scheduled for May 4, 2016.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Today's meeting adjourned at 10:29 a.m.

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