

**VETERANS MEMORIAL ISLAND SANCTUARY  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
Wednesday, January 3, 2018 – 10:00 a.m.  
City Hall, Council Chambers, Vero Beach, Florida**

**AGENDA**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
  - A) December 6, 2017**
- 4. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- 5. NEW BUSINESS**
  - A) Wreaths Across America – Mr. Rick Lewis**
- 6. OLD BUSINESS**
- 7. CHAIRMAN’S MATTERS**
- 8. MEMBER’S MATTERS**
- 9. NEXT MEETING DATE**
  - A) Next Meeting Date –February 7, 2018**
- 10. ADJOURNMENT**

This is a Public Meeting. Should any interested party seek to appeal any decision made by the Committee with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings and that, for such purpose, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Anyone who needs a special accommodation for this meeting may contact the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator at 978-4920 at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

**VETERANS MEMORIAL ISLAND SANCTUARY  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES  
Wednesday, December 6, 2017 – 10:00 a.m.  
City Hall, Council Chambers, Vero Beach, Florida**

**PRESENT:** Chairman, John Matthews, Vice Chairman, Joel Herman, Members: Barbara Fallon, Curtis Paulisin, Don Wickstrand, and Alternate Member #2, Peggy Lyon **Also Present:** Recreation Director, Rob Slezak; Assistant City Attorney, Stefanie Beskovoyne; and Senior Administrative Assistant, Rita Hawkins

**Excused Absence:** Sylvester McIntosh

**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) November 1, 2017**

**Mr. Herman made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2017 Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary Advisory Committee meeting. Ms. Fallon seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

**4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**A) Chairman**

Mr. Mathews asked for nominations for Chairman.

**Ms. Fallon made a motion to nominate Mr. John Michael Matthews for Chairman. Mr. Herman seconded the motion. There were no other nominations and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Matthews was elected as Chairman of the Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary Advisory Committee.**

Mr. Matthews said that he will proudly serve as Chairman again.

**B) Vice-Chairman**

Mr. Mathews asked for nominations for Vice Chairman

**Ms. Fallon made a motion to nominate Mr. Joel Herman for Vice Chairman. Mr. Matthews seconded the motion and with no other nominations the motion passed unanimously. Mr.**

**Herman was elected as Vice Chairman of the Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary Advisory Committee.**

## **5. PUBLIC COMMENT**

A student from the Charter High School, Alex, said that he is here today because he is required to attend a Government meeting for a school assignment.

Mr. Paulisin asked him if he chose this meeting for a specific reason. Alex explained that he tried to attend four (4) other meetings, but they were all canceled.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A) Review of Annual Report**

Mr. Paulisin stated that he believes the start date for Committee member Mr. Sylvester McIntosh is incorrect.

Ms. Rita Hawkins, Senior Administrative Assistant, verified that the date was incorrect and that it will be corrected in the final report before it is submitted to the City Council.

There were no other corrections or changes requested.

### **B) Donations to Veterans Memorial Island**

#### **1. Veterans Council of Indian River County**

Mr. Matthews announced that they recently received two (2) donations to the Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary.

Mr. Wickstrand asked other than donations how do they receive money to increase the balance in the Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary account. Mr. Matthews replied that it is all from donations.

Mr. Matthews stated that the first check was in the amount of \$1,000 from the Veterans Council of Indian River County in honor of Ms. Alma Lee Loy.

#### **2. Daughters of the American Revolution, Cora Stickney Harper Chapter**

Mr. Matthews said that the second donation of \$200 came from the Daughters of the American Revolution. Letters were sent to both organizations from the Mayor thanking them for their contributions.

## **7. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A) Recap of Charles Bedrosian Memorial Service**

Mr. Matthews stated that the memorial service for Mr. Charles Bedrosian was a simple ceremony with less than a dozen people in attendance. He did not attend the ceremony, but he hopes it was an appropriate service.

## **B) Recap of Veterans Day Ceremony**

Mr. Matthews stated that the Veterans Day Ceremony was a wonderful event and the Keynote Speaker, Lieutenant General Flora Darpino was a great speaker. One thing he heard about, but did not observe was that after the ceremony Lieutenant Darpino stayed on the stage to help fold and stack chairs. He heard it was estimated that there were 1,200 to 1,400 people on the Island for the event.

### **8. CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS**

Mr. Matthews reminded the viewing audience that tomorrow is Pearl Harbor Day. Between the battle of Pearl Harbor, the ensuing battles, World War II, and all that happened in the world, it would be a much different place if the World War II Veterans had not basically saved the world. We owe everything to the World War II Veterans.

Mr. Paulisin announced that tomorrow in Sebastian at Riverview Park there will be a Pearl Harbor Day ceremony starting at 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Matthews commented that when he first moved to Vero Beach there were probably 30 to 40 World War II Veterans and Pearl Harbor survivors who would get together for dinner meetings. They had a big 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary ceremony on Veterans Memorial Island many years ago, but many of those who attended are no longer with us.

Mr. Herman said there was a small article in today's paper about newly identified remains of a sailor killed in Pearl Harbor. It was an appropriate article to go along with Pearl Harbor Day.

Mr. Matthews said that in reading back through their minutes, they have approved a monument to go on Veterans Memorial Island for the Iraq/Afghanistan era. The lead organization will take the charge on how the monument will look with the Committee's approval, but he asked if the Committee members had any suggestions on helping them decide what it should be. Since that era consists of many conflicts he is not sure if one (1) monument would cover it all. It almost needs to be a garden of remembrances.

Mr. Paulisin commented that we have been fighting these conflicts since 1990 and it is still going on. Based on what he has heard, they are going to try to include all of the different operations.

Ms. Fallon stated that they need room to expand in order to include what is still going on.

Mr. Matthews stated that the Next Generation Veterans have chosen to go with a new location for their proposed big, beautiful t-wall monument. Someone made a suggestion to him that Iraq could have a sand colored granite monument with a marker, Afghanistan could be a darker or black granite with a marker, and then monuments for a few of the other operations could be placed there. Ms. Fallon said a cluster of monuments is a good idea. Mr. Paulisin added that they just need to leave room since they do not know when this will end.

### **9. MEMBER'S MATTERS**

None

### **10. NEXT MEETING DATE**

**A) Next Meeting Date – January 3, 2018**

The next meeting of the Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary Advisory Committee is scheduled for January 3, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

Today's meeting adjourned at 10:17 a.m.

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