

**VETERANS MEMORIAL ISLAND SANCTUARY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES
Wednesday, May 2, 2018 – 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, Sylvester McIntosh **Also Present:** Public Works Manager, Don Dexter; Assistant City Attorney, Stefanie Beskovoyne and Senior Administrative Assistant, Rita Hawkins

Excused Absence: Peggy Lyon

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Matthews called today's meeting 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) April 4, 2018

Mr. Herman made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 4, 2018 Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary Advisory Committee meeting. Ms. Fallon seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments by the public.

5. NEW BUSINESS

No new business was discussed.

6. OLD BUSINESS

A) Recap of the Memorial Ceremony for Vietnam Veteran Jeffery Flannery

Mr. Matthews reported that he attended the Memorial Service for Vietnam Veteran Jeffery Flannery. It took place at the Vietnam Memorial overlooking the water and there were about 50 people in attendance. It was an appropriate ceremony for Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary.

B) Recap of the Indian River County Victims' Rights Coalition Vigil

Mr. Matthews stated that the Victims' Rights Coalition Vigil was also an appropriate use for the Island, but he was not able to attend. They have been holding this event on the Island for many years.

C) Update on the Memorial Day Ceremony – May 28, 2018

Mr. Matthews stated that the Committee members all received a draft copy of the Memorial Day program to review (on file in the City Clerk's office).

Mr. Bruce Cady, Veterans Council, announced that the last Monday in May is Memorial Day, which is May 28th this year. The Veterans Council have been hard at work organizing the details for Memorial Day. This year they will have the highest ranking Marine Corp General Officer ever to present the keynote address, which will be Lieutenant General Robert Winglass. The Next Generation Veterans are coordinating the Boots on the Ground memorial as they did last year. The presentation will be set up in front of the main stage. The Vero Beach High School band will be performing, there will be Color Guards and Honor Guards present, and they will be honoring several Gold Star Mothers from the community. The Memorial Day ceremony starts at 9:00 a.m. and they suggest that people bring lawn chairs if they need to sit, because seating is limited. The High School band starts at 8:30 a.m. to accompany people gathering on Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary. There is plenty of parking in Riverside Park adjacent to the Vero Beach Arts Museum. The Veterans Council Transportation Service will be providing a bus to transport people from the far parking areas to the Island.

Mr. Matthews pointed out, arriving early is a big part of the event with music playing in the background, and people socializing as they make their way onto the Island.

Mr. Paulisin stated that they will have golf carts available for those who need mobility assistance getting onto the Island and he believes the Boy Scouts will be handing out water. Mr. Cady said that is correct. The Boy Scouts will also be handing out the programs and the water was donated by the Military Officers Association (MOA).

7. CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS

Mr. Matthews reported that the Vietnam Veterans Reunion was held last month, but he was unable to attend. It is the largest Vietnam Veterans Reunion in the United States.

Mr. Matthews announced that the Marine Corp Birthday Ball will be coming up on November 3, 2018. He said the rule is, when there are one (1) or more Marines then there is a party. Anyone listening is welcome to attend. This year the Marine Corp Ball will be held at the Elks Lodge.

8. MEMBER'S MATTERS

Mr. Paulisin reported that the Veteran Outreach Golf Tournament will be held on June 16, 2018 at Point West and it is filling up very fast. It cost \$65.00 per person and they have some scholarships available for those Veterans who cannot afford it. If anyone has questions or needs information they can call (772) 205-1995.

Mr. Herman invited anyone who has never attended the Memorial Day Ceremony to stop by Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary on May 28th.

9. NEXT MEETING DATE

A) Next Meeting Date – June 6, 2018

The next meeting of the Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary Advisory Committee is scheduled for June 6, 2018.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Today's meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

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