

**Veterans Advisory Committee**  
**Thursday, March 9th, 2017, 5:30 P.M.**  
**City of Bonita Springs**  
**9101 Bonita Beach Road, City Council Chambers**  
**Bonita Springs, Florida 34135**

**AGENDA**

I. MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bobby Hunter called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Hunter asked Committee Member Paul Canning to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

Present: Bobbi Hunter, Chairman  
Bill Pace  
Kay Pirucki  
Kathleen O'Hearn  
Adam Prenti III  
Scott Cline  
Bob Gillette  
Kendra Gilreath, Staff Liaison  
Jason Jaccarino, Staff

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public present

V. MONUMENT MAINTENANCE UPDATE- Jason Jaccarino

Mr. Jason Jaccarino, Maintenance Supervisor, reported that the monument has been cleaned and sealed. There are six light fixtures around the monument; three on the front and three on the back. The lights were not installed properly, consequently they were getting water in the lens. Mr. Jaccarino bought all new replacement bulbs and has found a way to seal the lights better to prevent water from getting on the lens. Mr. Jaccarino will replace all the fixtures with all new bulbs that have a ten-year warranty. Mr. Jaccarino also upgraded to five watt bulbs. The gentleman who refinished the monument is a former marine who has volunteered his services and time and his company's time and will come back every year to seal the monument at no extra cost. He gave us a 50 % discount on the cost to clean and seal the monument. The Committee agreed it looks brand new, they did a great job.

## VI. FLAG LIGHTING- Jason Jaccarino

Mr. Jaccarino explained that the lights at the base of the flagpole at Riverside Park are not working. It will cost \$6000 to replace four lights. Originally it was going to cost \$3000, however the manufacturer did not send the correct parts to have it up-lit. In order to get up-lighting, we would need to engage the City engineers. To use down-lighting, we do not need engineers. Mr. Jaccarino stated according to U.S. code, the flag may be displayed 24 hours a day as long as it is illuminated, that's all that is written in the U.S. code. Mr. Jaccarino asked the committee how they felt about down-lighting for the flags. Mr. Jaccarino passed out pictures to the committee. The light would be a silver ball that sits on top of the flag pole and shines down on the flag. It should illuminate the whole flag. The wire will run inside the pole. They would run conduit underground to the concrete base. The lights are LED and have a ten-year lifespan. The cost would be \$2500 for all 3 flagpoles. Mr. Jaccarino stated they looked at other options, but this option seemed to make the most sense. Mr. Jaccarino wanted to illuminate the city, state and U.S. flag. The U.S. Flag is the only flag that has to be illuminated if it flies 24 hours.

The Board approved using down-lighting to illuminate the U.S. Flag.

## VII. MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE PLANNING UPDATE- ADAM

Committee member, Adam Prentki updated the Committee on the Memorial Day Service Planning:

- Mr. Prentki asked if the Committee has someone to replace Pastor Bradley. Pastor Bradley did the opening and Mr. Jay Murphy did the closing at the Memorial Day Service. The Committee needs someone to fill in those spots. Mr. Prentki said he would check with his chaplain.
- The Bonita Fire and Rescue will do the posting of the colors.
- Alex will sing the National Anthem
- Mr. Prentki asked the committee if they want to contact the boy scouts or girl scouts for the pledge. Chairman Hunter said that a new Girl Scout group just started in Bonita, he will find out.
- Amy Serdahl is going to do the messages, we're going to take off Deb Whitely. Mr. Prentki will do a message also.
- Mr. Prentki asked if anyone had contact information at the Daughters of the American Revolution. If someone has a contact at the DAR, maybe they would like to do a message?
- Mr. Prentki stated since we don't have Steve, he does not know anything about the Doves.
- The Marine Corps will do the 21 gun salute and the taps.

VIII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE VETERANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

No minutes to be approved from the February 9, 2017 meeting.

IX. UPDATE ON BRICK SALES

Chairman Hunter reported that they installed twelve or thirteen bricks. The company did two last minute bricks, however, they misspelled Sempì Fi, which the company will replace at no cost to the City. Chairman Hunter pulled out seven bricks that need to be replaced and expects to get the bricks done in three to five weeks. He will be doing seven or eight bricks at a time so they will all look good. Chairman Hunter explained if you look from the monument side, from the small band shell he is working his way over to the POW flag. Chairman Hunter will clean and reseal the bricks every six months so they look good.

Chairman Hunter encouraged the committee to keep selling bricks. The Committee suggested Chairman Hunter mention buying a brick during his welcome speech.

X. NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Hunter suggested having a brick made for all the guest speakers who have served for the walkway to honor their service. The committee thought this was a good idea.

***Chairman Hunter made a motion to have a brick made for guest speakers who have served in the military, Mr. Scott Cline seconded, motion passed unanimously.***

XI. OLD BUSINESS

Committee member, Robert Gillette, stated he has a signed agreement with Ivan Castro. Northern trust is going to do a book signing for us the Friday night before. They have contracted with the Art League to have the premiere there on Veteran's night. It's going to be a full day event on Veteran's' Day starting with breakfast, then softball.

Lady made a motion that Bob introduce the speaker. Bob talked to his wife, his background she is concerned that he always travels with someone. He will be driving with him the whole time. Somebody has to lead him off the stage, some people have to watch him. It's not just a normal situation, the wife was concerned for his safety so we have a driver for him. We'll be able to take care of him.

Man speaking said he has some guys in green who can help out too.

Chairman Hunter asked if there are POWs from Bonita Springs, Naples or Fort Myers. Chairman Hunter would like to look into this and would like to set aside an area and add their names to the walkway. Ms. Pirucki will try to find out what POWs we have from this area; the list she saw had people from Naples. Chairman Hunter stated this is something to think about, we have to remember these individuals.

XII. NEXT MEETING DATE -04/13/2017

***Chairman Hunter made a motion to have the meeting on 4/13/17, motion passed unanimously***

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Nadine Chiamonte  
Receptionist/Office Assistant

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If a person decides to appeal a decision made by the Council in any matter considered at this meeting/hearing, such person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, to include the testimony and evidence upon which such appeal is to be based.