

**Veterans Advisory Committee
Thursday, August 10, 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

Meeting called to order 5:34 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Paul Canning led the Pledge of Allegiance

III. ROLL CALL

Present:

Bobby Hunter
Paul Canning
Scott Cline
Kay Pirucki
Adam Prentki III

Staff

Kendra Gilreath
Kody Taylor

Guest

Nicole Hornberger

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Hornberger, the new event coordinator for the Bonita Fire and Rescue, came to the meeting tonight to present an option for the Patriots Day Ceremony. Ms. Hornberger stated they have the mural at Station 1 which embodies the theme of Patriots Day and they would like to host the Patriots Day Ceremony. (See agenda item VI.)

V. QUOTE FOR PLAQUE ON VETERANS MONUMENT

Mr. Taylor presented a quote from Signs Now for the plaque for the Veterans Monument recognizing Mr. Michael Morgan as the artist. The plaque will be identical to what we have around the City. It will have the Mr. Morgan's name and the year. The cost is \$268.57. The committee discussed the wording for the plaque.

Mr. Adam Prentki III made a motion to change the wording to say Designed by Michael Morgan and the year and to approve the price of \$268.57; motion approved unanimously.

Chairman Hunter said he or Mr. Taylor would call the daughter to let her know when the plaque will be installed.

VI. PATRIOT DAY LOCATION REQUEST – FIRE STATION

Ms. Hornberger stated Fire Station 1 would like to partner with the City to host the Patriot Day event. Ms. Hornberger explained they have a grassy area and they have a tent and can set it up the same way it is currently set up at Liles Park and they have the mural. They would like the mural featured as part of the ceremony. In addition, the fire department would contribute man power and towards the budget for the event.

Chairman Hunter asked if they had the appropriate liability insurance. Ms. Hornberger answered they have liability insurance for each of the structures. Man speaking asked about parking and Ms. Hornberger stated that there is parking down Front Street and down Riverside. Mr. Taylor stated there will be parking by the new bio reactor parking on Abernathy and Felts. Mr. Taylor said they are expecting about 200 people so there should be plenty of parking for this event.

Ms. Hornberger stated the Chairman of the fire board and our fire chief are really passionate in creating a nice space. They would like to get a jump start and partner with the city to have the event moved to this space. They believe the theme of the event is very appropriate for the space at Fire Station 1. The number of spectators would fit into the space that they have.

Chairman Bobby Hunter made a motion that the Patriots Day Event be moved to the Fire Station; Mr. Adam Prentki III seconded; motion passed unanimously

VII. PATRIOT DAY PLANNING DISCUSSION (review program draft & make changes)

Kendra opened the discussion with a review of the patriot day program:

- Welcome – Mayor Peter Simmons
- Presentation of Colors – Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue Honor Guard
- Pledge of Allegiance – Cub Scout Pack 109 and Boy Scout Troop 109
- National anthem – Fred Davidson
- Invocation – Pastor Russ Winn
- Messages - David Groggi (needs to be confirmed, Mr. Hunter will call Steven Slachta or David Groggi)
- Patriotic Musical Tribute – Alex Herron.
- Essay Contest - What Does Patriotism mean to you. Ms. Gilreath will reach out to Bonita Middle School tomorrow and let the committee know the name of the student.

- Presentation of Proclamation declaring Sunday, September 11 as Patriot Day in Bonita Springs – Steven Slachta
- Guest Speaker – Captain Ryan Marquette
- Poem – Kathleen O’Hearn,
- Amazing Grace with bagpipes– Alex Herron
- Laying of the Wreath – Bonita Springs Fire Control Rescue District
- Final alarm bell – Bonita Springs Fire Control Rescue District Honor Guard
- Twenty-one Gun Salute – Lee County Sheriff’s office Honor Guard
- Taps - VFW post 4254 and American Legion post 303
- Closing Prayer – Mr. Hunter is going to find out if the chaplain from the Fire Department would like to do the prayer.

Mr. Taylor stated Ms. Hornberger said Fire Station 1 will supply the funds for the bagpipers which will cost \$200. Mr. Herron said he would be more than happy to coordinate with the bagpipers on Amazing Grace. The program will list the bagpipers and Mr. Heron, once they get the name of the group.

Ms. Gilreath said since the event will be held at a different location, she will check with Techtronics.

Mr. Taylor said the fire department has a tent the same size as the tent used last year. Mr. Taylor reported that the City owns the risers. Mr. Taylor will have Parks and Recreation department bring the risers to the fire department.

Mr. Hunter asked Ms. Gilreath to email the program to the committee for review and they will let her know of any changes.

VIII. WOUNDED WARRIOR GAMES DISCUSSION AND PLANNING: BOB

Bob was not at meeting.

IX. VETERANS DAY PLANNING DISCUSSION (review program draft & update)

The Committee decided to table this discussion until the September meeting.

X. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF VETERANS DAY PRESS RELEASE

Ms. Gilreath stated the press release is the same one we sent last year. Ms. Gilreath asked the Committee to review the press release and let Ms. Gilreath know of any changes they may have. Once approved, the press release will be distributed to the public through the usual news outlets.

Mr. Adam Prentki III made a motion to accept the press release; Chairman Hunter seconded; motion passed unanimously.

XI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE VETERANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF June 8th, 2017 and May 11, 2017

Mr. Hunter stated that they did not have a quorum on May 11.

Chairman Hunter made a motion to accept the minutes; Mr. Adam Prentki III seconded, motion passed unanimously.

XII. UPDATE ON BRICK SALES

Mr. Hunter reported that they had an installation. Ms. Pirucki and Mr. Cline attended. Mr. Hunter has worked with the City to replace the bricks that are hard to read. Mr. Hunter stated he is still waiting on Major Ivan Castro's information. Mr. Hunter would like the Committee to purchase and have a brick installed for Spencer Toner and present it to Mr. Toner on Veterans Day. Mr. Hunter asked for the Committee's approval.

Man speaking made a motion to buy a brick for Spencer Toner and present it to him on for Veterans Day; man speaking seconded; motion passed unanimously.

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Taylor presented the banners honoring Veterans to the Committee. Mr. Taylor stated the Need Name of Company or Person is donating six banners to put around Riverside Park. Mr. Taylor stated the Committee does not need to buy any more and there is no cost at all to the City. The Military Tribute Banners wanted to donate the 6 banners. Mr. Taylor reported the banners will not be done by September 11, but will be done by Veteran's Day. Mr. Taylor said the Committee can have the banners placed wherever they want. Mr. Taylor said he needs the Committee's approval to accept the donation and to vote on the design. There are three generic designs. If possible, the Committee would like two of each design. If Military Tribute cannot do two of each then the Committee selected design number 3.

Chairman Hunter made a motion to take the free donation and will take 2 of each, or if Military Tribute Banners can only do one design, the committee selected design number 3, Ms. Kay Pirucki seconded; motion passed unanimously.

XIV. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Hunter reviewed the program for the week of Veterans Day:

- November 9, 2017 – 6 to 8 p.m. - Concert under the stars at Pelicans Nest Golf Club
- November 11, 2017:

- 8 a.m. Breakfast at the American Legion Bonita Springs Post 303
- 11 a.m. City of Bonita Springs Veterans Day Service, Riverside Park
- 12:15 p.m. Bonita Bay Veterans Council Veterans Day Event – Bonita Bay Club
- 3:00 p.m. The Louisville Slugger warrior’s Softball Game
- 6:00 p.m. Premiere of documentary ENLISTED

Mr. Hunter said that for the 3 p.m. game they are going to come up with shirts that represents both of us.

Mr. Hunter will talk to Ms. Taylor about a program for the game. There will be an honor guard on horseback and a fly over.

XV. NEXT MEETING DATE

Chairman Hunter made a motion to confirm September 14, 2017, as the next meeting; motion passed unanimously.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Any person requiring special accommodations at any of the meetings because of a disability or physical impairment should contact Meg Weiss, Director of Administrative Services, at 239-949-6262.

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.