

VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMISSION

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

April 9, 2013

The regular meeting of the Veterans Memorial Commission was called to order by Chairman Jerry Ziese at 5:30 PM.

Present:	Jerry Ziese, Chairman	Patrick Reinert
	John Powers	Sarah Else
	George Hamman, Commissioner Emeritus	Mike Jager, Director
	Teri Van Dorston, Ass't Director	

Excused:	Connie Arens	Jim Bruner
	Gary Grant	

Guests: Dick Parsons

Commissioner Else made a motion to approve the minutes of the March meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Powers. The motion carried with no objections.

After a brief discussion, Commissioner Reinert made a motion to approve the current bills. Seconded by Commissioner Powers. The motion carried with no objections.

The Assistant Director gave a museum update. Gallery space – she and the Director have decided to design and fabricate the exhibit in the west gallery, the goal is to have a Civil War and Grand Army of the Republic sections open by the 21st of June.

Collection storage – shelving has been purchased from OSDI who will also hold the shelving until we are ready to install. Once the shelving has been installed we will be ready to accept the items back from Chicago.

There are issues with the terrazzo floor in the east gallery. The terrazzo and restoration firm had made repairs which have been rejected due to the unacceptable quality. Currently waiting for them to repour the floors. There are also terrazzo issues on 5th floor. This firm is also doing the floors on the Phase II project. There are options if this firm does not work out.

The Director reported the elevators have passed inspection by the State of Iowa and are able to use. Will start the process of making some of the upper floors available for meeting space. Phase II is about 75-80% complete; last update from the contractor, the work will be done by the 4th of July. The Freedom Festival would like to shoot the fireworks from the First Avenue Bridge. The goal is to have a temporary occupancy permit so the Commission can view the fireworks from the 4th floor ballroom. There are five office suites, approximately 800 square feet each, that will be totally remodeled and available for lease; four on the First Avenue side and one on the Second Avenue side.

The Chairman was notified by the ballpark to pick up some passes. In checking with the City Attorney's office regarding the law for accepting gifts he received a letter from Elizabeth Jacobi, Assistant City Attorney, which he read to the Commission. None of the Commissioners can accept the passes to the games. The Director will have the ability to have four passes to do inspections and he can take Commissioners with him. The Director stated part of it is the terminology of the stadium lease agreement which does allow us to have passes and inspections can take place when games are going on.

Commissioner Powers updated the Commission on the stand down; still in need of money. Commissioner Else suggested "The Greater Cedar Rapids Foundation" may be a potential for grant money; can apply online and will need letters of support. The Chairman will visit with Don Tyne. The veterans are planning a golf tournament; the Chairman suggested getting an overall sponsor and a chair that only deals with the tournament.

Commissioner Reinert made a motion to adjourn at 5:59 PM to go across the lobby to examine the floor in the east gallery and then adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Else. The motion carried with no objections.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Greene

CHAIRMAN _____
Date

VICE CHAIRMAN _____
Date