

VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMISSION

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

June 8, 2015

Veteran's Council Conference Room, 4th Floor

Present: Gary Grant, Chairman Constance Arens, Vice Chairwoman
 John Powers Mike Jager, Executive Director
 Jim Bruner Teri Van Dorston, Assistant Director
 Hattie Holmes Nikee Woods, Admin. Asst.
 Kristin Delfs

Excused: Jerry Ziese Councilman Scott Olson

Guests: Tony Hlas

The regular meeting of the Veterans Memorial Commission was called to order by Chairman Grant at 5:30 PM. Chairman Grant clarified that Commissioner Holmes remains as a Commissioner until Mayor Corbett states otherwise.

Approval of the Previous Meeting's Minutes:

Commissioner Bruner made a motion to approve the minutes of the May meeting; seconded by Commissioner Delfs. The motion carried with no objections.

Financials:

Commissioner Delfs made a motion to approve the current bills; seconded by Commissioner Powers. The motion carried with no objections. Chairman Grant requests that VMC meeting minutes and monthly financials be sent to the VMC the week prior to monthly meetings moving forward.

Museum Report/Assistant Director:

The Assistant Director reports that collections continue to stream in. A.D. Van Dorston reminds the VMC that the intern, Lindsey Blair, will be staying abroad from July to August of this year. The Vietnam gallery guide nears design completion. This and our lobby directories were made possible with assistance from Artist (and veteran), Julius Cavira. Chairman Grant inquires how the veteran art studio opening went this past Saturday. Executive Director responds that The Community of Artists and Veterans had a Grand Opening on June 6, 2015 and is open to artists, Veterans and Veterans' families, Monday through Friday, 10:00 am until 4:00 pm on the 5th floor of the South Tower. The C.A.V. has also brought renters to the VMB through their partnership, showing their commitment to the Building visible in many aspects.

Communication and Update from the MVC:

Commissioner Bruner reports that the Memorial Day Program held at the VMB (as opposed to The All Veterans Memorial Park) was a success. Many attendees also browsed through both gallery exhibits. The MVC requests for future building events, organized by MVC, that better stage lighting options are procured. Executive Director Jager reminded the Commission about past and current plan regarding sound and lighting in the Coliseum.

Public Comment:

- Commissioner Powers requested contact information for the Freedom Festival on behalf of the Marine Corps League.
- Commissioner Delfs shares that Vice Chairwoman Arens as well as herself will be honored on the field as Military Heroes at the July 4, 2015 Cedar Rapids Kernels baseball game.
- E.D. Jager voiced that the VMC has received an exorbitant amount of calls from family and friends in regards to missed flag placement at the Czech National Cemetery on Memorial Day.
- Commissioner Powers requested that during future Veterans' events a better plan of action for use of the underground parking ramp after his experience at the Memorial Day Program. E.D. Jager suggests signage from the organizing Veterans' organization(s) to explain such directions, coupled with promotional details of event(s) could be beneficial.

Commissioner Powers made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:09 PM; seconded by Commissioner Delfs. The motion carried with no objections.

Respectfully submitted,

Nikee Woods, Admin. Assistant

CHAIRMAN _____
Date

VICE CHAIRMAN _____
Date