



City of North Port

4970 CITY HALL BLVD
NORTH PORT, FL 34286

Meeting Minutes Veterans Park Ad Hoc Committee

Wednesday, August 23, 2023

10:00 AM

City Hall Room 244

1. Call to Order

Chair English called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Present 5 - Chair English, Vice Chair Burris, Board Member Bailey, Board Member Wilson and Board Member Stephens

Absent 1 - Board Member Thomas

Also Present

Staff Liaison Jeff Nelson, City Clerk Heather Faust, and Recording Secretary Shari Tharp.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice Chair Burris.

4. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

5. Approval of Minutes

- A. [23-1174](#) Approve Minutes of the July 26, 2023 Veterans Park Advisory Committee Meeting

A motion was made by Board Member Bailey, seconded by Board Member Burris, to approve the Minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

6. New Business

- A. [23-1247](#) Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Presentation of a Prisoners of War (POW) Obelisk

Chair English introduced the item.

Discussion ensued regarding flag location, costs, representation of veterans, design, purpose, and structure of park.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Burris, seconded by Board Member Stephens, to review cost to add Prisoners of War (POW) flag to the circle. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Chair English, Vice Chair Burris and Board Member Stephens

No: 2 - Board Member Bailey and Board Member Wilson

Absent: 1 - Board Member Thomas

B. [23-1248](#) Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Representation of an Emergency Services Obelisk

Chair English introduced the item.

Discussion ensued regarding purpose of the Circle of Honor; recommendation to commission, history of intention of Veterans Park, memorial versus park concept, and whether to include Emergency Medical Services (EMS) obelisk or flag.

C. [23-1270](#) Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Military Branches Flag Locations

Chair English introduced the item.

Mr. Nelson informed the board that this item was heard at the prior meeting and no further direction or discussion was needed.

Discussion ensued regarding adding Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Prisoners of War (POW) flags in lieu of obelisk, First Responder flag options, and review of prior minutes.

[23-1248](#) Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Representation of an Emergency Services Obelisk

Chair English reintroduced the item.

Discussion resumed regarding adding First Responder flag to the Circle of Honor.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Burris, seconded by Chair English, to add First Responder flag to the Circle of Honor. The motion failed by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Chair English and Vice Chair Burris

No: 3 - Board Member Bailey, Board Member Wilson and Board Member Stephens

Absent: 1 - Board Member Thomas

7. Updates

A. [23-0312](#) Updates Regarding Donation Collection Process (Jeff Nelson)

Chair English introduced the item.

Mr. Nelson provided an update regarding donation collection, tribute bricks, and donation process.

B. [23-0554](#) Updates Regarding Developing A List of Possible In-Kind Donations (Jeff Nelson)

Chair English introduced the item.

Mr. Nelson provided an update regarding in-kind donations, challenges, costs, processes, solicitation methods, and specifications of donation items.

8. Future Agenda Items

Chair English announced the item.

Future agenda items to include park plans, design, and processes update. Discussion took place regarding obtaining and encouraging public involvement.

9. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

10. Adjournment

Chair English adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

By: _____
Chuck English, Chair