



City of North Port

4970 CITY HALL BLVD
NORTH PORT, FL 34286

Meeting Minutes Veterans Park Ad Hoc Committee

Wednesday, July 26, 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 6 - Chair English, Vice Chair Burris, Board Member Bailey, Board Member Wilson, Board Member Thomas and Board Member Stephens

Absent 1 - Board Member Schumann

Also Present:

Parks and Grounds Manager Jeff Nelson, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Patricia Sturgess, Recording Secretary Shari Tharp, and Assistant City Clerk Adrian Jimenez.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chair English.

4. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

5. Approval of Minutes

- A. [23-0984](#) Approve Minutes of the May 24, 2023 Veterans Park Advisory Committee Meeting

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

6. New Business

- A. [23-0987](#) Discussion and Possible Action Regarding of a Windphone Presentation by Trish Sturgess

Chair English announced the item.

Ms. Sturgess provided a presentation to include introduction, examples of other city wind phones, mental health benefits, Florida's growing public health problems, proposal, and integration.

Discussion took place regarding vandalism, Commission approval, reflection pond, bench, plaque, image story, presentation, incorporating wetlands, habitats, security cameras, design plans, budget, additional funding, and funding sources.

A motion was made by Board Member Thomas, seconded by Vice Chair Burris, to move forward and approve Parks and Recreation concepts plan.

Discussion continued regarding loss of family members, purpose of the bench, design concept, implementation, public knowledge, and endorsement.

The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

B. [23-0989](#)

Discussion and Possible Action Regarding a Draft Plan Presentation by Pennoni Group for the Design of the Circle of Honor

Chair English announced the item.

Mr. Nelson provided a presentation to include environmental aspect, implementing committee elements, budget, existing site features, initial schematic layout, conceptual layout, gateway east and west view, aerial view, gopher tortoise burrows, wind phone location, and landscaping.

Discussion took place regarding parking, playground and shade areas, various seating options, accessibility, post etchings, statues, and military oath area.

There was a consensus to have the Oath on the entry way with the etching as well as at the back of the park.

Discussion continued regarding service flag locations.

There was a consensus to add the branch flags at the back wall in line with the other flags.

Discussion continued regarding budget cuts, costs, resources for donations, maintenance, wing walls, landscaping, habitats, volume of land, standing occupancy, environmental aspects, and water fountain.

7. Updates

A. [23-0312](#)

Updates Regarding Donation Collection Process (Jeff Nelson)

Chair English announced the item.

Mr. Nelson provided an update on various donations, list of items, cost, and materials.

B. [23-0554](#)

Updates Regarding Developing A List of Possible In-Kind Donations

Chair English announced the item.

Mr. Nelson provided an update on design items needed.

8. Future Agenda Items

Future agenda items to include representation for Prisoners of War (POW) and emergency services obelisks.

9. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

10. Adjournment

Chair English adjourned the meeting at 11:04 a.m.

By: _____
Chuck English, Chair