

# Bordentown City Veterans Memorial Committee

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- April 14, 2021
- Meeting called to order at 6:34pm
- Flag salute
- Stephanie read Sunshine Notification
- Roll call
  - Stephanie Pecht
  - Bruce Throckmorton
  - Mayor Collom
  - Chris Hofrichter
  - Jim Brimmer
  - JC Platt
  - Marguerite Hellwich
  - Special Guest: Mayor Lynch
- Mayor Lynch addressed the committee on the communication regarding the bridge and memorial
  - He has a relationship with DOT official with whom he is coordinating on efforts
  - They will be working together on the planning for any structural engineering to rehabilitation vs replacement
  - There is a sense that the replacement could instead be a rehabilitation. Reference email from John Brodowski on the DoT TIPS page for updates and process for changing the status from replacement to rehabilitation, as well as the notification of \$40k

available due to previous unused earmarks of which \$25k will be directed to the BCVM Fund.

- State DOT and Governor Murphy are in favor of preventing the tearing down of historic structures and have been on record saying as much
- Stephanie is receiving multiple communications from historians/historical societies and train enthusiasts daily due to her press, public statements and appearances as well as social media push
- Stephanie is maintaining a save the bridge contact list
  - For use in the future and possibly for a petition
- Discussed was that historian Pierre is the one who found the obelisk that belonged in Bordentown
- Per Mayor Lynch, inspection system for the bridge is 50.8, and if it goes below 50, it is not something that can be driven over, but the number can take many years to decline – will continue to be monitored
- He also stated that there would be less disruption with the rehabilitation vs the complete overhaul
- Regarding the interview with Brenna, the comment “Fight Like a Veteran” – Stephanie to make signs to raise awareness, encouraged by the Committee
  - Stephanie is meeting with Jamie Friday to discuss the making of signs
  - -- Use a photo or drawing of the bridge
  - -- Any funds earned from it should go back into the BCVMC per Mayor Lynch
- Mayor Lynch and Joe Myers confirmed the surplus of \$40k and says any repairs to the memorial should not come from Memorial funds
  - He will direct the \$25k to go to the BCVM Fund

- The Committee relayed their sincere gratitude to the Mayor for his continued support and interest
- Jim Brimmer would like to have the ability to speak with the City engineer at some point – Mayor Lynch agreed that it would be appropriate and suggested having a meeting next time he is in the city would be best
- RE 9/11 Memorial
  - Parking an issue for hilltop
  - Divine Word may be the best option
  - Project at DW has just begun
  - Lewis and Clark print view from the hilltop overlooking Point Breeze and Bonaparte Mansion will be on display
    - The history was discussed and revealed that Lewis and Clark were indeed in this area!
  - New building will have an office for BCVMC for which the Committee thanked the Mayor
- Mayor Lynch excused himself, Regular Business resumed
- Chris Hofrichter stated flags at half-staff appropriate for Ziggy Targonski because he was a servant of this city but otherwise the flags will only be at half-staff for military or city servant deaths, not the likes of Covid victims, etc.
  - Chris asked if Stephanie would let Mayor Lynch know that the 30 half staff period is over and full staff will resume the next day.
- Jim Brimmer stated that he would step down from his post as Vice President of the Committee.
  - A letter will be written about stepping down
    - Chris will consider the offer to replace at a later date

- The Committee thanks Jim for his great contributions throughout his time on the Committee and looks for to his continued membership as a Committee Member
- Discussed the use property on DW for a museum for military, other local history
- Shirts – Jamie Clugsten of Always in Stitches working designs
  - Marguerite will email potential emblems and designs in next two weeks
- Motion to accept minutes of previous meeting were approved
- Financial reports from the City and the Audit Report from Stephanie were both reviewed, and were approved
- Military Emblem – PO issued to Bowker, once they start they can get paid, per Margaret

#### Engravings

- Wolff brother engravings have been completed, family notified
- JC Platt presented a name of a Chief Petty Officer from Bordentown who was killed in action in Vietnam in 1967.
  - DD214 needs to be reviewed
  - Marguerite to liaise with DMAVA – get DD214
- Pavers for Simmons and D’Angelo are still waiting for engraving
- Military Artifacts at City Garage
  - plaque from cannon and from the original Role Call discussed and displaying them was of interest
  - Jim is checking with Joe Malone and Mike Skelly (sp?) about the history on the plaques

#### SOP

- Table till next meeting

### New brochure

- o Address change
- o Chris's contact info – confirm
- o May need use City Email and phone instead of Chris's info

### Reviewed Gala poster

- o Motion accepted for the three names on the draft gala flyer be adopted and letters sent to them or their representatives

### Associate Members

- Bobby and Lesley Blaser- approved
- Brian's letter – approved
- Review list of potentials to be investigated – discuss next meeting
- Consider limiting the associate members to a specific number – discuss next meeting

### Terra Verde Design LLC estimate

- Power washing – Bowker said do not power wash because it will eliminate the gold on the granite panels and bronze plaque/panels.
- Pavers can be power washed
- Don't paint the planters
- Considering a perennial plant but hydrangeas as it is perennial
- JC will do the power washing and Stephanie will get a new estimate

### Bruce Throckmorton spoke about

- Will we be concerned about black granite and filtration, chemicals, etc
- This may be something to be added to city to do list
- Looks like panel is moving and caulk needs to be replaced

- Mostly cosmetic, nothing structural
- Will get price for the caulking
- Will also get a price to get panels replaced from Chris

Adjourned at 8:44