

Michigan Veterans' Memorial Park Commission (MVMPC) meeting notes August 22, 2022 meeting

Attendees: John Juarez, Lindell Holm, Danny Craig, Andrew Cosgrove, Gary Quinn, and Dana Schafer
Absent: Jim Dunn
Guests: Jerry Keeder and Brent West, DTMB-Building Operations

1. Approve April 18, 2022 meeting notes
 - Andrew Cosgrove motioned to approve; Lindell Holm supported motion; all approved.
2. Financial Statement
 - Reviewed the 3rd Quarter MVMP financial report. Fund is in good standing.
3. DAR Revolutionary War Patriots Memorial plaque donation update
 - Installation of DAR plaque at MVMP is complete and dedication ceremony was held on April 22, 2022 - all went well.
4. Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) memorial inquiry
 - SAR has contacted John Juarez regarding a memorial; they would like to donate a Revolutionary War Patriots plaque, a bench, and an elm tree.
 - i. John shared information on the monument application process with the gentleman that reached out regarding a memorial.
 - ii. John mentioned that the DAR already has a plaque in the Park for the Revolutionary War Patriots and noted that the monument application guidelines reference that only one monument/memorial for an event/conflict is allowed in the Park; however, he advised the SAR could still submit an application. The Commission has the sole responsibility to review and make the decision to approve or disapprove a donation.
 - iii. John explained that there are size limits for plaques/memorials and explained that the landscape recommendations note that trees/plants should be native to Michigan and able to withstand the climate.
 - iv. Jerry Keeder noted, for future guidance, that if a tree species is zoned for our area, it could be considered; he also mentioned that we should make donors aware of additional cost that may be involved in maintenance of a tree.
 - v. Regarding the memorial bench, Jerry noted that a walkway/path would be required, adding additional cost and maintenance.

5. Concrete repair update– Vietnam Veterans Memorial Walkway

- Jerry and John met with a contractor at the site to assess scope of the repairs.
- Since the project will be under \$50,000, DTMB does not need to bid project out, but is required to get 3 quotes. Jerry was able obtain 3 quotes, and the Building Operations Director will approve the winning quote.
- Moore Trosper provided the best value quote – the other 2 vendors were very high dollar amounts.
- Jerry is setting up a meeting with the contractor to look at the area and give ideas for best fix while keeping price reasonable (e.g., which sections should be repaired, possibly removing bronze strips on South side of the Vietnam wall.
- DTMB recommends removal of the strips on the South side of the wall.
 - i. These strips are thinner than strips on the North side and break easily when removing for concrete repairs.
 - ii. The strips also increase concrete cracking around them due to water being able to settle along those areas.
 - iii. Replacing the strips on the South side would also likely double to cost of the repair project.
- Current quote is for area right in front of the Vietnam Memorial Wall (South side).
 - i. **Jerry** will send John quote from Moore Trosper.
 - ii. **John** will share with the Commissioners to review/get approval to move forward with the repairs.
 - iii. **John** will notify Jerry once approved.
- Projected timeline for concrete repair project:
 - i. Two weeks to get the order cut
 - ii. Once the order is cut, contractor will get the project on their work schedule.
 - iii. Jerry anticipates vendor may be able to get work done within 2-4 weeks of the order being cut. Hopefully, all repairs will be done before winter weather sets in.

6. Update on additional sign on SE corner of MVMP

- Wayfinding sign has been installed. Just need to add QR code sticker.

7. Signage on SW corner of MVMP

- Commission previously approved the additional wayfinding map (at the 4/18/22 meeting)
- Quote and proof have been received for map insert only - \$1, 042.50.
- DTMB has an available pedestal, so no additional cost involved.
- Final proof has been approved and sent to production.

8. Security camera update

- Jerry was contacted by vendor - all materials are on-site for the security camera.
- Jerry is meeting this week with the Hall of Justice IT staff and security to review how to run cabling and get started on set up of the camera.
- Anticipate everything will be installed/running before the December MVMPC meeting.

9. Fundraising/Donations website update

- John Juarez and Dana Schafer shared update for the donations page that has been developed on the MVMPC website.
- List of ways to support/donate to the Park, with details, is provided.
- Payments page and order form (order form required for brick pavers and retired flag purchases) have been developed and links to these can be found on the site.
- Donations web page will launch this week.
- Special thanks to Nicole Willard for all the work she did to get this web page designed for us!
- Dana has developed informational document for a brochure that can be shared at events and various veterans' post.
 - i. Dana has sent to DTMB Print and Graphics to get a quote on brochure design and printing cost.
 - ii. Will share quote and proof of brochure when it is available.
- **Dana** will send draft of brochure information to the Commissioners for review, along with the link to the donations page.
 - i. Commissioners can share the website with various organizations.

10. Recommendations for Commissioner vacancies

- John has asked for recommendations from Commissioners to backfill the current vacancies by **September 1st**.
- **John** to provide recommendations to the Governor's appointment office by **September 15th**.

11. Other topics

- Danny Craig noted that he chairs the Veterans Committee for AARP-Oakland/Wayne County, and they are planning to go statewide.
- He would like John Juarez to talk about the MVMPC and the donations/fundraising site. This would be a great outreach opportunity. John agreed that he could speak at a meeting.
- **Danny** will talk to his AARP contact and let John know what meeting he would be able to speak at.

The next MVMPC meeting is scheduled for **December 12, 2022 from 10:00am-Noon.**