

Notes
Michigan Veterans' Memorial Park Commission (MVMPC)
April 8, 2024 meeting

Attendees: John Juarez, Andrew Cosgrove, Robert Price, Gary Quinn, and Dana Schafer

Absent: Gregory Havrilcsak, Lindell Holm

Guests: Brent West

- December 11, 2023 meeting notes
 - Robert Price motioned to approve the December 11, 2023 meeting notes; Andrew Cosgrove seconded - all approved.
- Financial statement
 - Reviewed MVMP financial report; account is financially sound.
- Concrete update
 - Concrete repair around the Vietnam Memorial Wall was completed in early November and held up well through the winter.
 - Other area in need of repair is part of the Kelley Walkway and will be the responsibility of DTMB-Facilities.
 - Any further repairs needed on the South side of the Vietnam Memorial Wall will need to be discussed by the MVMPC.
- Update on brick pavers
 - We are currently in the process of replacing 3 of the 8"x8" pavers that were cracked.
 - We have received an order for 1 new paver; this paver is also in process of being manufactured.
- MISSAR Liberty Tree & Plaque dedication ceremony – April 26, 2024 (John)
 - Update on plaque installation
 - i. Brent advised concrete base and post will be installed on 4-9-24.
 - ii. Plaque will be put on the base the morning of 4-26-24 and be covered until the ceremony that afternoon.
 - Dedication ceremony updates
 - i. Ceremony will be held from 2:00 – 3:00pm.
 - ii. John advised that the event sponsors have requested approval to have 21-gun salute and revolutionary war cannon blast at the ceremony.

- DTMB Event Coordinator will work with appropriate agencies (Michigan State Police, Lansing Police Dept., Hall of Justice Security) to ensure all parties are aware of the noise generated by these 2 events.
 - Brent mentioned that the DTMB Event Coordinator will work with DTMB Infrastructure Protection and a Facilities notification about the gun salute and cannon blast can be sent out, so all downtown employees are aware as well.
 - Gary Quinn motioned to approve the 21-gun salute and cannon blast; Andrew Cosgrove seconded; all approved.
- iii. Brent would like a list of Commissioners that will be attending; Dana has sent an email asking for confirmation of attendance and will share once all have responded.
- iv. Andrew asked if there was marketing of this event. John noted that we are not aware of marketing outside of what the MISSAR has done.
- v. MISSAR did reach out to the legislature and Governor's office for participation.
 - John will reach out to the event sponsor to see if they have been able to confirm attendance by legislature or governor.
 - Andrew will also reach out to his legislative contact to see if anyone is attending.
- Potential monument application
 - POW-MIA chair - Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) -Detroit Chapter
 - John and Dana recently met with Chrystin Herman from DMVA. She received an inquiry from VVA-Detroit Chapter about possibility of having a POW-MIA Chair on state grounds.
 - We shared the Monument Application packet information with her, and she is sending to the VVA.
 - If an application is received, we will share with the Commission.
- MVMP website address
 - Discussed that the MVMPC website address changes from time to time due to updates; this has happened a couple of times since the website was established.
 - When site address changes, it requires us to update the QR codes on the wayfinding maps, ensure Commissioners are notified of new website address, etc.

- Purchasing a domain for the MVMPC website would alleviate this issue, but there would be a cost.
- John/Dana will check into this further and see what options are available and cost involved.

- Vietnam Monument discussion
 - Update names on the wall and in the directory book.
 - John Juarez has received a download of information on the national wall and will complete a reconciliation with our list to see what updates we need on the wall at the MVMP.
 - He will provide an update at the June MVMPC meeting.
 - Will need to find a vendor to add the names to the Vietnam Memorial Wall and book.
 - The book is showing some wear from the weather; will seek recommendations from vendor on cleaning up the book or suggestions for best way to preserve the names in the book.
 - Discuss bronze plates and glass strip on South side of Vietnam Memorial; they are starting to break apart from the harsh winter weather.
 - Commission will explore best options for the bronze plates and glass strip going forward – remove, replace, or maintain (polish/clean) on an annual basis.

- Discuss future events at MVMP
 - No updates: this will be a standing item on the agenda.

The next MVMPC meeting is scheduled for **June 17, 2024 from 1:30 – 3:30pm.**