

**Veterans Memorial Garden Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes**

December 12th, 2024 at 7:30 am
Antelope Enclosed Shelter
3200 Memorial Dr
Lincoln, Nebraska

Advisory Council Members Present: Brendan Moore, Craig Anderson, Joe Brownell, James Murphy, Cody Schaaf

Others Present: Joyce Peck, Diane Bartles, Mark Orr, Dănette Mătty

LPR/Lincoln Parks Foundation Staff Present: Maggie Stuckey-Ross, J.J. Yost, Mike Comstock, Randy Gordon, Shawn Quinn, Cameron Mueller, Jamie Granquist

1. Call to Order (roll call):

Brendan Moore, Craig Anderson, Joe Brownell, James Murphy, Cody Schaaf
Quorum was met with 5 members present.

2. Welcome & Introductions:

Craig opened the floor to brief introductions of attendees around the room.

3. Recognition of Open Meetings Act:

Craig recognized that the meeting is subject to the open meetings act and referred the Council to the related poster in the back of the room.

4. Pledge of Allegiance:

Craig led the pledge of allegiance.

5. Approval of Minutes: September 12, 2024*

Jim moved approval; Cody seconded. Passed unanimously.

6. Public Comments for items not listed on the Agenda:

Diane Bartles reviewed the Ad Hoc LPS educational outreach. Middle schoolers would be the focus. 5 monuments would be the Gardens information provided. State of Nebraska Statues educational requirements have that a certain portion of curriculum be military based. This outreach could fulfill this requirement. Production is next step in process. Grade level focused per production. Next meeting is January 8th.

7. Finance Report: Lincoln Parks Foundation

Quarterly Financials: Randy Gordon reported on the proceeds on brick sales get updated in November, will be on the 4th Quarter report. 3rd quarter numbers reviewed the Veteran's Fund & Programs & Endowment numbers, strong 3rd quarter. Endowment process discussed on how funds are held, accessed, and growth for long term support of Gardens needs for maintenance and updates.

8. Committee Reports

Facilities Committee: Construction Schedule Updates

J.J. Yost reported that SeeBees is complete, memorials that need repaired or redesigned, proposals brought to VMGAC, for review and approvals.

Events and Publicity Committee:

i. Event Debrief: Joe Brownell

1. **Veterans Day Parade** (organized by Lincoln Veterans Parade Group/Veterans Day Parade Committee), November 10 at 2pm. Craig said that 4 people walked in the parade representing the VMGAC. Banner is carried, walk about 10 blocks, more support suggested for 2025 if submitting an entry.
2. **Veterans Day** (organized by VMGAC), Monday, November 11 at 11am in Auld Pavilion. Day went well, good attendance, nice variety of speakers. Students and teacher praised as connecting well with the audience.
3. **Pearl Harbor Day** (organized by VMGAC), Saturday, December 7 at 11:55 am in Auld Pavilion. Great attendance, speakers from sons & daughters of Pearl Harbor is a big plus. Continue to ask group and incorporate youth component. Good news coverage.

ii. 2025 Events: Please add these dates to your calendar!

1. **Memorial Day** (organized by Lincoln Memorial Day Observance Association): Monday, May 26 evening ceremony/typically 8pm
2. **Bricks of Honor Dedication** (organized by Lincoln Parks Foundation), Saturday, June 7 at 10 am
3. **Patriot Day** (organized by VMGAC/coordinate with City-wide event at State Capitol), Thursday September 11; time 10 AM
4. **Veterans Day Parade** (organized by Lincoln Veterans Parade Group/Veterans Day Parade Committee), November XXX
5. **Veterans Day** (organized by VMGAC), Tuesday, November 11 at 11am in Auld Pavilion
6. **Pearl Harbor Day** (organized by VMGAC), Sunday, December 7 at 11:55 am in Auld Pavilion

Executive Committee:

i. Election of Officers*

On hold until next meeting, tabled as Joe Brownell's appt. Motion to Suspend the election until the next meeting.

- a. Cody moved approval; Jim seconded. Passed unanimously.

ii. Committee Chairpersons and Members (current committee list in packets)

1. Committee Meeting Schedule

iii. **Proposed 2025 Budget***

Mike Comstock reviewed the budget categories, basically based off the 2024 budget and similar needs. Explained the flexibility of the Misc section for special items not in all programs, like displays and addl speakers. 2024 expenses requested per line item for review and what balances are by item, to get a feel of what is spent and what is overflow.

b. Brendan moved approval; Cody seconded. Passed unanimously.


9. Announcements:

- a. Council vacancies (3)
- b. Thank you, Craig!

10. Adjourn: Brendan moved to adjourn the meeting; Jim seconded. Passed unanimously.

Next Quarterly Meeting: March 14th, 2025, 7:30 am (Antelope Enclosed Shelter, Antelope Park, S. 32nd & Veterans Drive)

Respectfully Submitted:


Jamie Granquist, Recording Secretary