



Traverse City United States Coast Guard Committee

3:00 P.M.

Thursday, March 6, 2014

Located in: The Second Floor Conference Room

Governmental Center

Traverse City, MI 49684

Posted: Tuesday, March 4, 2014 at 9:00 AM

If you are planning to attend the meeting and you have a disability requiring any special assistance at the meeting, please notify the City Clerk, immediately.

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AGENDA

1. ROLL CALL
2. Announcements
3. Consideration of approving minutes from the Special Meetings of February 6 and 13, 2014.
4. Update from Don MacIntyre about the Coast Guard 5K Event.
5. Discussion regarding Coast Guard Monument Project items to discuss with Parks and Recreation Commission.
6. Public Comment
7. Adjournment

CITY OF TRAVERSE CITY

Minutes

United States Coast Guard Committee

February 6, 2014

A Regular Meeting for the United States Coast Guard Committee was called to order in the Second Floor Conference Room, Governmental Center, 400 Boardman Avenue, Traverse City, Michigan, at 3:00 p.m.

The following were present, constituting a quorum: Joe Muha, Stan Simons, Glen VanRiper, Steve Perdue, Jered Ottenwess and Caleb (Coast Guard Rep).

Also present was Kate Stroven

The following were absent: Rob Richardson and Kevin Bavers.

Joe Muha chaired.

Various announcements were given.

1. First item being “consideration of approving minutes from the Special Meeting of January 9, 2014.”

It was moved by Simons, seconded by Perdue that the minutes from the Special Meeting of January 9, 2014 be approved.

AIF/MC (Richardson and Bavers absent)

2. Next item being “update from Don MacIntyre about his Coast Guard 5K Event.”

Moved to next month.

3. Next item being “discussion regarding Coast Guard Monument Project items to discuss with Parks and Recreation Commission.”

Various items were discussed relating to the Coast Guard Monument ranging from size, location, and the intent of the city’s policy to regulate public art. Also discussed were possible issues that may arise from the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

4. Next item being “public comment.”

None.

There being no objection, Chair, Joe Muha declared the meeting adjourned at 3:29 p.m.



Katelyn Stroven
Recording Secretary

DRAFT

CITY OF TRAVERSE CITY

Minutes

United States Coast Guard Committee

February 13, 2014

A Special Meeting for the United States Coast Guard Committee was called to order in the Second Floor Conference Room, Governmental Center, 400 Boardman Avenue, Traverse City, Michigan, at 3:00 p.m.

The following were present, constituting a quorum: Joe Muha, Stan Simons, Glen VanRiper, Rob Richardson, Kevin Bavers, Steve Perdue, and Jered Ottenwess.

Also present was Kate Stroven

The following were absent: Sean Cross

Joe Muha chaired.

Various announcements were given.

1. First item being “discuss the Coast Guard Monument project.”

By consensus of the committee, the Coast Guard Monument is a project to honor the men and woman of the Coast Guard. The committee would like to propose to the Parks and Recreation Commission a joint subcommittee to work on coming to a mutual agreement on size, location, and general look of the monument. .

2. Next item being “public comment.”

None.

There being no objection, Chair, Joe Muha declared the meeting adjourned at 3:54 p.m.



Katelyn Stroven
Recording Secretary



City of Traverse City
Coast Guard City Committee
Governmental Center
400 Boardman Avenue
Traverse City, MI 49684
(231) 922-4480
(231) 922-4485



February 18, 2014

Brian Haas
Chairman
Traverse City Parks and Recreation Commission

Dear Mr. Haas;

On behalf of the Traverse City Coast Guard City Committee, I want to thank you and the members of the Parks and Recreation Commission for welcoming us to your recent meeting to discuss our hope that Traverse City might honor the men and women of Coast Guard Air Station Traverse City with a statue located in the downtown area. I am particularly grateful for the constructive feedback that we received. We look forward to working with you, and with other stakeholders, to ensure an open and transparent process that allows for appropriate community participation as an underpinning to this important effort. Our goal, first and foremost, is to honor the men and women – both active duty and retired – of the Coast Guard by proclaiming Traverse City's prominent position as a USCG city.

As previously noted, we began this process more than a year ago. Many hours of hard work and thoughtful planning have gone into this effort. As with any successful community initiative, the kernel of an idea begins when likeminded people come together with the hope of improving our community. I assure you, we remain very flexible about how best to implement this initiative. While we remain steadfast in our desire to erect a statue to honor the Coast Guard, we are flexible as to where it might be erected and to what it might eventually evolve to look like. We did not present a mandate to you, rather we are inviting a dialogue; and we are seeking your assistance in completing our objective in a public and transparent manner. We are mindful that the process is as important as the outcome.

In the spirit of collaboration, therefore, I am writing today as a follow-up to our last meeting to invite your assistance and participation. Please accept this correspondence as an invitation for further discussion. We respectfully propose that a task force be established, consisting of representatives from our two groups. Perhaps two members of the Parks and Recreation Commission could join together with two members of the Coast Guard City Committee to work together with the common goal of identifying an appropriate location for a suitable statue. As a precursor to this work, the task force could additionally determine an appropriate public process designed to ensure broader public input. We would certainly welcome the involvement of a member of the City Commission to the task force, as well.

Our first preference is to erect the helicopter statue at the location previously identified, but we understand the need to remain flexible to artistic design and location. We would, however, recommend some guiding principles that should not be compromised:

1. This effort is intended to honor the brave men and women of the Coast Guard. Every effort should be made to do so. We are not interested in moving forward if the process becomes so messy that the original intent and prime goal is thwarted. Every word spoken and every action taken should honor the Coast Guard. Let's design an open and transparent process for getting this done in a manner that is positive and forward-looking, and that highlights the very best practices of good community governance.
2. We are committed to erecting a statue to the Coast Guard, to be situated in a suitable place of prominence. As other Coast Guard Cities have done, we have a unique opportunity to highlight the important life-saving contributions of the men and women of the Coast Guard through artistic expression. We should recognize their efforts and contributions in a big and prominent way.
3. We remain mindful of the cost of completing this work. Our efforts should be efficient and the ultimate outcome must be affordable.

I hope you will agree to appoint a joint task force to take our initial planning to the next level, with the goal of ultimately realizing the dream of erecting a suitable statue. Working together, I have no doubt that we can enhance the original plan through a public process designed to achieve the ultimate goal. We remain very excited by this prospect and we welcome your assistance and participation.

I am available to further discuss these ideas, and I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,


Joe Muha
Chairman