

**Minutes of Somersworth Veterans Park Commission Meeting
City Council Chamber
Tuesday, February 19, 2019**

Committee members present: Martin Dumont, Chairman, Richard Michaud, Vice Chairman, Doreen Cole, Cathy Burns, Jenne Holmes, Richard A. Gagnon, Eric Mommsen, John Gregoire, Paul Spendley, Claudette Bayko

Administration present: Dana Hilliard, Mayor, Robert Belmore, City Manager, Mike Bobinsky, Director of Public Works, Gary Lemay, City Engineer, Shanna Saunders, Development Director, Scott Smith, Assistant Deputy Manager

The meeting was called to order at 4:03pm by Chairman Dumont. Motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting as written and reviewed was made by Vice Chairman Richard Michaud, seconded by Jenne Holmes, motion passed unanimously by hand vote.

Chairman Dumont introduced Jen Martel of Ironwood Design Group, to present the concept plan & preliminary cost of Somersworth Veterans Park, developed from the ideas presented by this committee at the last meeting. This was a visual presentation of the conceptual design plan with detailed explanation of each proposed item, also handouts of the plan and preliminary itemized costs were given to those in attendance. Active discussion and feedback regards incorporating and placement of the existing monuments and to include the USS Somersworth monument. The plan includes handicap accessible path to meet ADA standards, moving the bus stop up the street a bit, expand the curb to prevent cars from parking directly in front of the memorial, there is a semi circular donor brick walkway, long radial bench with name of park, series of 5 granite monuments, representing each branch of the service, with seal, motto and established date, 3 flag poles, city seal, donor benches, QR code leading to the park web site. Evergreens, easy care and small sized plantings, area lighting for park and flagpoles. Discussion about electric plug power source, portable podium and sound system for events, irrigation system to keep planting and lawn pristine (cost needs to be added to estimate). Fundraiser donors, perhaps incorporate an honor wall nearer the museum, depicting gold star, bronze star to encourage large donors acknowledgements. Feed back on large bench chairman Dumont asked the committee's input decision that the bench will be made of granite. General remarks about the conceptual design presented were positive.

Jen Martel will take in this meeting's suggestions and incorporate and refine the design, looking at setting back existing memorial, to keep everything symmetrical, and include the old monuments/markers as they are part of the history of the park. She will contact Mr. Belmore when the redesign is ready for presentation. Chairman Dumont thanked Jen Martel for her presentation. Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Vice Chairman Michaud, seconded by John Gregoire, meeting adjourned at 4:56pm.

Chairman Dumont will set the next meeting and notify the committee by email.

Respectfully submitted, Claudette Bayko, committee member

