

**MAY 25, 2004
RACELAND, LOUISIANA**

**STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISH OF LAFOURCHE**

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE VETERANS' MEMORIAL DISTRICT (WARD 10) OF THE PARISH OF LAFOURCHE WAS SCHEDULED TO MEET ON TUESDAY, MAY 25, 2004, AT 5:30 P.M. PRECEDING THE PUBLIC WORKS & SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL MEETING ROOM AT THE LAFOURCHE PARISH COUNCIL BARRIOS CENTER, 1612 HWY. 182, SUITE 100, RACELAND LOUISIANA.

Mr. Brent Callais, Chairman, stated that the Veterans' Memorial District (Ward 10) was ready for the transaction of business. Proceedings of the meeting were called to order at 5:35 P.M. with the following:

PRESENT: Mr. Tyrone Williams
Mr. Michael Delatte
Mr. Michael Matherne
Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer
Mr. Lindel Toups
Mr. L. Phillip Gouaux, II
Mr. Brent Callais–Chairman
Mr. Daniel Lorraine–Co-Chairman

ABSENT: Mr. Tommy Lasseigne

Mr. Michael Matherne led the Veterans' Memorial District and members of the audience in an opening prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Daniel Lorraine.

DISCUSSIONS

The first item (1) on the agenda was a discussion concerning the memorial and purchase of property. Mr. Daniel Lorraine spoke in reference to the millage that was put together of veterans, mainly from Ward 10. He also stated that the Council needs to work more closely with the veterans and that the veterans deserve more respect. Mr. Lindel Toups agreed with Mr. Lorraine that the veterans worked hard to pass the tax and they should get the vans. He also stated that the veterans should have more involvement in the decisions. Mr. Phillip Gouaux suggested that the veteran's group get with their individual Councilman in order to know exactly what the veterans want to do, and to have a more populace vote. Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer made reference to what the tax call stated. He then went on to say that the Council is the Governing Body for the District and that the Council needed to do what was in the best interest of everyone. Mr. Atzenhoffer suggested that the Veteran's Memorial District Advisory Board present to the Council a list of possibilities. Mr. Lorraine made some statements that the original tax call was put together for the buying of property, maintenance

and construction. Continuing, that it was also for the VFW in Larose, the Bayou Centroplex, and the Golden Meadow American Legion.

MOTIONS

The next item (2) on the agenda was a motion authorizing the Board of Commissioner's Chairman to solicit for bids to purchase vans. A motion was offered by Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer, seconded by Mr. Phillip Gouaux, and **carried** by a vote of nine (9) yeas and zero (0) nays. Mr. Brent Callais will come back with bids for vans for the Council's approval. He also elaborated on the type of vans that will be considered for bids.

The next item (3) on the agenda was a motion granting authorization to the Board of Commissioner's Chairman to solicit for proposals for land to build the monument. A **motion** was offered by Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer and seconded by Mr. Lindel Toups. Mr. Gouaux suggested that all the Council members from Ward 10 be in agreement with looking for a site. Mr. Brent Callais stated that an ad would be published for 30 days in the Lafourche Gazette and in the Daily Comet newspapers asking for proposals of land that can be donated, dedicated, or sold to the South Lafourche Memorial District to build a monument. An **amendment** was offered by Mr. Daniel Lorraine and seconded by Mr. Lindel Toups to read that Mr. Brent Callais, Mr. Daniel Lorraine, and Mr. Phillip Gouaux, and also one veteran member from the land committee each from Golden Meadow, Galliano, and Larose, get proposal solicitations to purchase land and to become a 6 person sub-committee to meet and discuss the proposals. The Subcommittee will report back to the full Council to get recommendations sometime in mid-August. The amendment **carried** by a vote of six (6) yeas, two (2) nays and one (1) absent, being that of Mr. Tommy Lasseigne. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

YEAS:	Mr. Tyrone Williams
	Mr. Michael Delatte
	Mr. Lindel Toups
	Mr. Phillip Gouaux
	Mr. Brent Callais
	Mr. Daniel Lorraine
NAYS:	Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer
	Mr. Michael Matherne
ABSENT:	Mr. Tommy Lasseigne

The motion **carried** by a vote of eight (8) yeas, zero (0) nays, and one (1) absent, being that of Mr. Tommy Lasseigne.

OTHER BUSINESS

The next item (4) on the agenda was the Public to address the Board. Mr. Linton Doucet stated that he had been begging for some property to build a monument for the veterans for almost a year. He continued by giving examples of small companies that came in and became larger and larger. Mr. Doucet stated places that should be considered and should not be delayed any longer.

Next, Mr. Larry Dufrene, Chairman of the Transportation & Maintenance Committee, spoke of what he thought the unity of the two American Legions and the VFW would be like. He mentioned

that it is not like he thought, because there is too much negativity. Mr. Dufrene stated that his first priority was for the VA to get the vans. He also stated that the Centroplex is close to being lost and is the home for 183 veterans. He then went on by speaking of how they were in debt for under \$200,000 and where would they go if they lost the building. Mr. Dufrene suggested buying the Centroplex and it could become the South Lafourche Veteran's Memorial building, belonging to Ward 10. He stated that a memorial could then be built, the vans could be housed, and have a meeting place for the veterans, by purchasing the building and its grounds.

Next, Ms. Rosie Galjour, Commander of the Centroplex, stated that she appreciated all the statements and especially admired Mr. Doucet's visions and dreams. She went on by mentioning the Centroplex was named and it was a memorial for a boy who died at a very young age. Ms. Galjour continued by suggesting that the Centroplex be looked at, considered, and made known to the public all the possibilities it could render.

Next, Mr. Douglas Cheramie asked that the last amendment be reconsidered to having 7 people instead of 6 serving on the Land Subcommittee.

ADJOURN

On motion by Mr. Mark Atzenhoffer, seconded by Mr. Phillip Gouaux, and with no further business the Lafourche Parish Veterans' Memorial District (Ward 10) of May 25, 2004, adjourned at 6:20 P.M.

**BRENT CALLAIS, CHAIRMAN
VETERANS' MEMORIAL DISTRICT (WARD 10)**

**PHILLIP GOUAUX, SECRETARY
VETERANS' MEMORIAL DISTRICT (WARD 10)**