



# *Memorials & Dedications*

September 15, 2014 – 7:00 PM - **Minutes**

Councillor William Saltzman Antechamber, Room 213, Municipal Building

**MEETING: COMMITTEE ON MEMORIALS & DEDICATIONS**

**DATE: SEPTEMBER 15, 2014**

**TIME: 7:05 P.M.**

**PLACE: COUNCILLOR WILLIAM SALTZMAN ANTECHAMBER, ROOM 213, MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

**PRESENT: COUNCILLORS HENRY BOUSQUET, CHAIRMAN; DANA REBEIRO, VICE-CHAIRPERSON; KERRY WINTERSON**

**ABSENT: COUNCILLORS NAOMI CARNEY; LINDA MORAD**

**ALSO PRESENT: COUNCILLOR BRIAN GOMES**

\* \* \*

Councillor Bousquet called the Committee on Memorials & Dedications Meeting to order and took attendance. The Clerk read Communications from Councillors Carney and Morad stating they would not be in attendance, which were received and placed on file by Councillor Rebeiro and seconded by Councillor Winterson.

\* \* \*

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Written Motion, Councillor Gonsalves, on behalf of John Souza, 46 State Street, that the Committee on Memorials and Dedications, look into renaming Gifford's Lane to Captain Mangual's Lane, or something similar, or possibly to establish some other appropriate tribute to Mr. Souza's late Grandfather, Captain Sixto Mangual (Please see enclosed email for further information/backup regarding this request.)(Ref'd 09/14/06, 11/26/07 - tabled, 05/28/08, 06/30/09 - tabled, 02/28/11 - tabled, 04/11/11- tabled, 09/24/12 - tabled, 11/26/12 - tabled, 08/28/13 - letter) and a Communication, Dennis R. Reidenbach, United States National Park Service Regional Director, to Councillor Linda M. Morad, Chairperson, Committee on Memorials and Dedications, Re: Proposed addition to the Merchant Mariners Monument at Fort Taber. (04/21/11, 08/28/13 - tabled) was removed from the table by Councillor Winterson and seconded by Councillor Rebeiro. (1, 1a)

DPI Commissioner Ron Labelle was present and informed the Committee that he met with the family and will work with them to come up with an appropriate design. Due to the new federal guidelines with the Department of Interior, a master plan must be completed and adopted before a memorial or dedication can move forward. Commissioner Labelle's office is currently working on the master plan, once done the design ideas can be presented to the Committee.

On motion by Councillor Winterson and seconded by Councillor Rebeiro, the Committee VOTED: To table this matter at this time. This motion passed on a voice vote.

\* \* \*

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Written Motion, Councillor Gomes, requesting that the Special Committee on Memorials and Dedications meet with the Administration for the purpose of discussing a suitable site for a Memorial honoring the late Senator Edward M. Kennedy, for his 47

Years of Service of Dedication and Representation to our Country, Commonwealth and our City while serving in the United States Senate, seeing that Senator Kennedy's ties to the City of New Bedford were infused by his many actions to help this City and its Citizens and the people who were dedicated to and supported the Senator; further, in this Councillor's opinion, a suitable location for a dedication would be the completion of the hurricane dike walkway reflecting the late Senator's love for the City, and for the ocean; further that this recommendation be forwarded to the Special Committee on Memorials and Dedications to work with the Army Corps of Engineers; and further requesting that, if the hurricane dike walkway is not feasible, then the Committee, along with the Administration, look for another location to memorialize the late Senator Edward M. Kennedy. (Ref'd 09/10/09, 05/22/12 - tabled, letters, 5/20/13 – tabled until we get federal approval confirmation to build this memorial in the Whaling National Historic Park) (2)

On motion by Councillor Winterson and seconded by Councillor Rebeiro, the Committee VOTED: To table this matter at this time. This motion passed on a voice vote.

\* \* \*

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Written Motion, Councillors Saunders, Gonsalves, Alves, Martins, Dehner, Duarte, Gomes, and Lopes, requesting to rename a portion of Shawmut Avenue, from Nash Road to the New Bedford Regional Airport to ARNOLD B. CAMARA AVENUE, in memory of Mr. Camara for his contribution to the community (Ref'd 7/18/10, 5/20/13 – tabled; clerk to look into how many parcels would be affected by this name change, 07/30/14 – tabled for thirty (30) days) was removed from the table by Councillor Winterson and seconded by Councillor Rebeiro. (3)

Attorney Shannon Shreve from the Solicitor's Office was present and addressed the Committee stating, that they do not have an issue with placing a sign describing the discussed section of Shawmut Avenue in memory of Arnold B. Camara. The street name would not change, nor would the addresses; it would simply dedicate that section of avenue to Mr. Camara.

DPI Commissioner Ron Labelle stated that the sign could be done by the Traffic Department they would work with Mr. Camara and forward the design plan to the Committee.

Mike Camara, representing the Camara Family, thanked the Committee and was happy this was moving forward.

On motion by Councillor Winterson and seconded by Councillor Rebeiro, the Committee VOTED: To ask Scott Downing to work with the Camara Family and DPI to create appropriate signage to read "ARNOLD B. CAMARA WAY." This motion passed on a voice vote.

\* \* \*

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Written Motion, Councillor Morad requesting, on behalf of Normand Cabral, Commander-Howland Chapter Veterans Association, that the Special Committee on Memorials and Dedications consider dedicating the electrical building located at Clasky Common Park in memory of the late Louis S. Whitlow, Jr., who for many years worked tirelessly and with great pride on the annual holiday decorations display at Clasky Common Park (Ref'd 11/22/11, 05/22/12 – Letters, when we receive a response, send results to Mr. Haggerty, 03/11/14 – Remain in Committee, 07/30/14 – Letter) was received and placed on file by Councillor Winterson and seconded by Councillor Rebeiro. (4)

Councillor Bousquet informed the Committee that he spoke to Mr. Haggerty at New Bedford Voc-Tech and they will do anything that is necessary as asked, but the materials for the plaque will need to come from the city.

DPI Commissioner Ron Labelle told the Committee that he will get in touch with Mr. Haggerty and they will make it happen, DPI will coordinate with Voc-Tech.

On motion by Councillor Rebeiro and seconded by Councillor Winterson, the Committee VOTED: To send a letter to Mr. Haggerty at Voc-Tech to reach out to Mr. Labelle to move the design process forward. This motion passed on a voice vote.

\* \* \*

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Written Motion, Councillor Gomes, requesting, on behalf of the Paul Ryan Vermette Family, that permission from the Committee on City Property be given to the Vermette Family to adopt the triangle located at Mill Street and Kempton Street, outside the Rite Aid Pharmacy, for the dedication to the late Paul Ryan Vermette; and further, that the Vermette Family would like to adopt and provide upkeep and maintenance, with all costs incurred by the Vermette Family, to the triangle located east of the Hess Gas Station; and further requesting, that the rotten trees be removed and replaced with four cherry blossom trees, along with a bench and a plaque in memory of the late Paul Ryan Vermette due to his contributions to businesses and buildings that he built all around the triangle located at Mill and Kempton Streets; and further, that the Vermette Family is establishing a yearly scholarship to be given to a New Bedford High School Student in memory of the late Paul Ryan Vermette (Ref'd 04/25/13, 03/11/14 – table, 07/30/14 – letters to Gerwatowski, DPI and City Solicitor with request for response within thirty (30) days) was removed from the table by Councillor Winterson and seconded by Councillor Rebeiro. (5)

Attorney Shannon Shreve from the City Solicitor's Office looked at the issue with Engineering based on Councillor Gomes' request to allow the Vermette Family to take care of the proposed square. Some of the initial concerns were that where it was located it was not a legal lot; but it was determined that the area was owned by the city and not the state. A discussion about who would be liable if any injury occurred on that section of land, say if a bench was placed there in memory of Mr. Vermette and someone were to slip and fall due to snow removal, etc. However, Attorney Shreve said after a review of the issues and possible concerns, they were comfortable with the proposal as submitted by Councillor Gomes.

Councillor Gomes spoke on behalf of this item. The Vermette family would incur the expense of placing flowers, plaque and possible bench in memory of Mr. Vermette who contributed so much to the growth of that area of the city.

Councillor Bousquet asked Attorney Shreve about the states Adopt a Highway initiative and how it is executed. Attorney Shreve told the Committee that there was nothing major to adopt a highway. All you would need to do is take a ten minute test, get a vest and clean your designated section of the highway. The City tried something like that a while ago.

On motion by Councillor Winterson and seconded by Councillor Rebeiro, the Committee VOTED: To receive and place on file the information handed out by Attorney Shannon Shreve regarding the City's permitting the Memorial on City Property and delegating its duty to maintain the memorial grounds to private individuals. This motion passed on a voice vote.

On motion by Councillor Rebeiro and seconded by Councillor Winterson, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council to Grant Permission allowing the Vermette Family, with the cooperation of the City to dedicate the parcel, the triangle located at Mill and Kempton Streets, outside the Rite-Aid Pharmacy, in memory of the Late Paul Ryan Vermette. This motion passed on a voice vote.

\* \* \*

Councillor Rebeiro made a motion to take item number 2 from the table, which was seconded by Councillor Winterson.

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Written Motion, Councillor Gomes, requesting that the Special Committee on Memorials and Dedications meet with the Administration for the purpose of discussing a suitable site for a Memorial honoring the late Senator Edward M. Kennedy, for his 47 Years of Service of Dedication and Representation to our Country, Commonwealth and our City while serving in the United States Senate, seeing that Senator Kennedy's ties to the City of New Bedford were infused by his many actions to help this City and its Citizens and the people who were dedicated to and supported the Senator; further, in this Councillor's opinion, a suitable location for a dedication would be the completion of the hurricane dike walkway reflecting the late Senator's love for the City, and for the ocean; further that this recommendation be forwarded to the Special Committee on Memorials and Dedications to work with the Army Corps of Engineers; and further requesting that, if the hurricane dike walkway is not feasible, then the Committee, along with the Administration, look for another location to memorialize the late Senator Edward M. Kennedy. (Ref'd 09/10/09, 05/22/12 - tabled, letters, 5/20/13 – tabled until we get federal approval confirmation to build this memorial in the Whaling National Historic Park) was received and placed on file by Councillor Rebeiro and seconded by Councillor Winterson. (2)

Councillor Gomes was recognized to explain his motion. He is looking for something in the city to be dedicated to the memory of Senator Ted Kennedy for his contributions to the City of New Bedford. He would like to see the walkway to be placed on the hurricane barrier dedicated, but is open to other suggestions.

Ms. Chiara Palazzolo, Acting Superintendent New Bedford Historical Park, 33 William Street, New Bedford, was present and addressed the Committee. They do not object to naming something in the historic district after Senator Kennedy, but it would have to fall with the National Park guidelines, (exceptional performance, strong link to community, five years deceased). She suggested the garden adjacent to the visitor center, or the new class rooms in the center.

Ms. Palazzolo presented the requirements to the Committee, which was received and placed on file by Councillor Rebeiro and seconded by Councillor Winterson.

The Committee discussed that they review the requirements presented and come up with the appropriate proposal and then send out for approval.

On motion by Councillor Winterson and seconded by Councillor Rebeiro, the Committee VOTED: To table this matter at this time. This motion passed on a voice vote.

Councillor Winterson made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Councillor Rebeiro.

This meeting adjourned @ 7:45 p.m.

ATTEST:

---

Clerk of Committees