



# Memorials & Dedications

April 11, 2016 – 7:00 PM - **Minutes**

City Hall, 133 William Street, Councillor William Saltzman Antechamber,  
Room 213, Municipal Building

**MEETING: COMMITTEE ON MEMORIALS & DEDICATIONS**  
**DATE: APRIL 11, 2016**  
**TIME: 7:00 P.M.**  
**PLACE: COUNCILLOR WILLIAM SALTZMAN ANTECHAMBER, ROOM 213, MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

**PRESENT: COUNCILLORS KERRY WINTERSON, CHAIRMAN; HENRY BOUSQUET, VICE-CHAIRMAN; IAN ABREU; NAOMI CARNEY; DANA REBEIRO**

**ABSENT: NO ONE**

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Councillor Winterson called the Memorials & Dedications Committee Meeting to order and took attendance, everyone was present.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Councillor Lopes, submitting a request from the Prince Henry Society of MA, Inc., regarding the northwest area of Pope's Island that is currently known as "Marine Park" be dedicated and named Prince Henry "The Navigator" Park on Pope's Island (Ref'd 11/24/15) was received and placed on file by Councillor Bousquet and seconded by Councillor Abreu. (1)

Mr. Michael Tavares, President of the Prince Henry Society, informed the Committee that back in January of 1997 the City Council approved the placing of the Prince Henry Monument on Pope's Island. At the dedication that area of the park was to be named the Prince Henry Park, unfortunately, the designation fell by the wayside for some reason. The Prince Henry Society would like to have the area of the monument re-designated as originally agreed to, by some way of a plaque or signage.

Mr. Carlos Da Cunha, Director of the Prince Henry Society, stated the agreement went back to the Administration in place at that time (the Kalisz Administration), but somewhere along the line the designation was never put into effect. He did not know why but has heard a number of rumors.

A discussion ensued between the Committee Members and Mary Rapoza, Director Parks. Ms. Rapoza suggested that rather than just designating the corner of the park in the name of Prince Henry, that it may be better to move to rename the entire park.

Mr. Tavares wanted the Committee to know this was not the Society's intent, they are not suggesting this just that the area originally agreed upon be officially designated.

The Chairman said he understood that the Society was not moving to rename the entire park that it was just part of the discussion.

Councillor Rebeiro asked about the original intent which dated back to 1997 and forward. She was told that Council approved the placement in January 6 of 1997 and that the Kalisz Administration moved forward with the placement and monument dedication. She stated she would like to see the history of the dedication, who made what decisions, etc.

Carlos Da Cunha explained that a plaque had been created dedicating the area but it was never put in place as originally agreed upon.

Councillor Bousquet asked how much signage it would take to rename the park and it was decided not much. He felt that the park should be named in its entirety after Prince Henry so not to have to smaller designations for two pieces of a single park.

On a Related Motion by Councillor Rebeiro and seconded by Councillor Bousquet, the Committee VOTED: That the Clerk of Committees Office and the City Council Office pull the records that initiated the placement of the status of Pope Island and any related communications that may have led to the designation of the north west corner of the park to be named for Prince Henry. This was to include securing information from the Kalisz Administration, who was in office at the time. This motion passed on a voice vote.

On a Related Motion by Councillor Bousquet and seconded by Councillor Abreu, the Committee VOTED: That after the research is secured and presented to the Committee that the Committee recommend renaming the entire park in the name of Prince Henry and the Administration be made aware of the Committee's intent. This motion passed on a voice vote.

On motion by Councillor Rebeiro and seconded by Councillor Abreu, the Committee VOTED: To table the main motion for thirty (30) days. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Written Motion, Councillor Lopes, Winterson, Council President Gomes, Bousquet, Morad, Oliveira, Coelho and Alves, requesting that Mayor Mitchell begin the process of retiring the badge number of the late New Bedford Police Chief David A. Provencher. (Ref'd 12/17/15) (2)

On motion by Councillor Bousquet and seconded by Councillor Rebeiro, the Committee VOTED: To take "No Further Action" on this matter at this time. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Written Motion, Councillors Martins, Lopes, Rebeiro, Oliveira, Coelho, Alves, Bousquet, Carney, Council President Gomes and Winterson, requesting, that the Special Committee on Memorials and Dedications explore the possibility of naming an appropriate memorial in honor of the late David A. Provencher, Chief of Police, to pay tribute to his thirty-five years of service on the New Bedford Police Department and to his fellow Citizens. (Ref'd 12/17/15) (3)

On motion by Councillor Bousquet and seconded by Councillor Rebeiro, the Committee VOTED: To take "No Further Action" on this matter at this time. This motion passed on a voice vote.

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Written Motion, Councillors Lopes, Martins, Carney, Council President Gomes, Winterson, Rebeiro, Bousquet, Morad, Alves and Oliveira, requesting, that the City of New Bedford declare August 7<sup>th</sup> of each year as Purple Heart Day. (Ref'd 4/23/15) (4)

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

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Written Motion, Councillors Gomes, Saunders and Lopes, requesting, that the Special Committee on Memorials and Dedications meet with Jeff Costa, Chairman of Financing and Marketing, Deb Shrader, President and Committee members of the Fisherman's Tribute Fund, for the purposes of discussing the possibility of erecting a Fisherman's Memorial to be located at Monkey's Island on East Rodney French Boulevard, north of East Beach (Ref'd 3/22/12, 05/22/12- tabled, letters, 09/24/12-tabled, 11/26/12-letter to the Mayor, 05/20/13- Clerk of Comm. To meet with Deb Shrader and Sue Bragdon, 08/28/13- tabled, 03/11/14- tabled for 30 days, 9/8/15- send letters to State and Federal Delegation seeking financial assistance in funding Fisherman's Memorial- tabled for 30 days) was removed from the table by Councillor Bousquet and seconded by Councillor Rebeiro. (5)

Christina Connelly of the Mayor's Office provided the Committee with an update since the Committee met last. The administration met with the Fisherman's Memorial Committee to find a suitable alternative site for the Memorial. They wanted a site central to the waterfront. It was decided that Tonneson Park, adjacent to Pier 3 and the Waterfront Visitor's Center would be an ideal place. They discovered that the Neptune Fountain that is currently there actually belongs to the Whaling Museum and they have agreed to take the fountain from its current site and move it to the Whaling Museum area. This opens the area up for the Fisherman's Memorial. This area will cost less to construct the memorial and is in a more prominent location.

The Memorial has been designed by DPI. It will include a Compass Rose design and the paving stones sold by the Fisherman's Memorial Fund will be put in place as pathways leading to the Compass Rose. The cost of this project will be around \$12,000.00. They are hoping for May 31<sup>st</sup> completion date so they can dedicate it around Memorial Day.

Deb Shrader, President of the Fisherman's Memorial Fund explained the fund is happy with the new location, though they had to make some concessions in moving the project forward, but that it will promote the points the fund has been trying to make and is glad it will tie in well with the working Waterfront Festival and other Waterfront activities and will be seen by many. It is a much better area rather than having to travel to Monkey's Island to see the Memorial.

On motion by Councillor Bousquet and seconded by Councillor Abreu, the Committee VOTED: To refer notification to the City Council of the new location for the Fisherman's Memorial at the Tonneson Park, at Pier 3, and that the Committee on Memorials and Dedications has discharged this item. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Written Motion, Councillor Lopes, requesting that the City of New Bedford consider installing a "Before I Die Wall" in a central location, said wall is a global art project that invites people to reflect on their lives and share their personal aspirations in a public space. (Ref'd 2/11/16)

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

Councillor Bousquet made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Councillor Abreu.

This meeting adjourned @ 7:36 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Clerk of Committees