

Veterans' Committee Meeting Minutes  
February 27, 2023

- Approximately 12 members of the community were present for the meeting.
- Fleming reviewed meeting agenda and process for the committee moving forward:
  - Site Selection – Dec. 12 meeting
  - Vision & Fundraising – Feb. 27
  - Concept Ideas – Mar. 20
  - Sketch Renderings – Apr. 17
  - Project & Site Recommendations – May 15
- The group decided that the project would be the Davidson Veterans' Monument as a monument is something established to commemorate or honor a notable person or special event.
- There was a discussion about recognizing individual veterans. This is a huge project in and of itself. The goal of this group is to design and fundraise for the monument. Recognizing individual veterans will be a separate project that could include a digital database.
- The group decided that the vision or purpose of the monument is "To commemorate all who have served honorably in the military to defend our Nation."
- The group spent time discussing desired physical attributes that they would like the monument to have and emotions that they would like it to convey.
  - In general, the simpler the better
  - Unifying
  - Inviting
  - Peaceful, thoughtful
  - Reflective
  - Gratitude
  - Higher purpose
  - Service
  - Communities coming together
  - Feel good
  - Wow factor, awe
  - Visually unique
  - Classy
  - Elegant
  - Evocative
  - Artistic symbolism
  - Contemplative
  - Want to come see
  - Landscaping important
  - Grass important
  - All 6 military branches recognized
  - POW MIA recognized

- Ceremonial – will it be used
  - Recognize canines that have served?
  - Continuing the Mission
  - Accessible
  - Will it have flagpoles? Lighting important?
  - Needs a plaque
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- The group discussed fundraising goals. Based on the cost of previous art projects, the group felt that a base minimum fundraising goal should be \$250,000. We talked about what is needed for fundraising success which includes as much information as possible about the monument including its vision, statement of purpose, location, and sketch renderings.
  - The group decided that a fundraising committee should be established. People volunteered as well as volunteered others on the committee. The group would like the following members to serve on the fundraising committee: Tom Leonhardt, Leane Turner, Ed McLean, and Ron Walters.
  - The timeline for the project is to deliver a recommendation to the Town Board after our May 15 meeting. From there DPAC will issue a call for artists and begin on the construction of the project. We anticipate that the project completion date will be before Veterans' Day 2024.
  - Our next meeting will be on Monday, March 20 at 5:00 p.m. We discussed moving the time of the meeting, but all felt that 5:00 is better for people that work to be able to attend.
  - Homework for next meeting: please look for visual examples of monuments, sculptures, art, settings, etc. that you like. You can email them to me at [kfleming@townofdavidson.org](mailto:kfleming@townofdavidson.org) so we can view them as a slideshow during the Mar. 20 meeting.