



Meeting Date: 3/12/12  
Agenda Item: #7e

**Mission Statement**

Delivering quality services in a courteous, cost-effective and efficient manner.

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**VILLAGE BOARD MEETING STAFF REPORT**

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**REPORT TO:** President Burt McIntyre and Village Board of Trustees

**REPORT FROM:** Paul Evert, Village Administrator

**AGENDA ITEM:** Review and take action on dedicating acreage at Howard Memorial Park for the development of a Veterans' Memorial

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**POLICY ISSUE**

Should the Village of Howard dedicate space at Howard Memorial Park for the future development of a Veterans' Memorial?

**RECOMMENDED ACTION BY VILLAGE BOARD**

Village staff recommends the Village Board allow land at Howard Memorial Park to be used for the construction of a Veterans' Memorial. If the board were in favor, the following motion may be made:

*"I move to dedicate green space at Howard Memorial Park for the development of a Veterans' Memorial."*

**POLICY ALTERNATIVE(S)**

- Not approve the use of Howard Memorial Park space for a Veterans' Memorial.
- Approve the motion with changes
- Table the item

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The Veteran's Memorial Ad Hoc Committee held meetings on Feb. 1 and March 7, focusing discussion on choosing a location to construct a new Veterans' Memorial. At the meeting in February, staff presented seven different possible locations, which included public and private sites. The Committee's consensus at that meeting was that the top two preferred sites were the green space at Howard Memorial Park next to the ball diamond and an area along Humming Bird Drive that will be created by the removal of several homes to accommodate the Hwy 41-29 expansion project. It was later learned that the DOT has changed the design along the Humming Bird Drive area, and the resulting post-construction area remaining will not be able to accommodate a Veterans' Memorial.

At the March 7 meeting, the Committee was informed that the Humming Bird Drive site was no longer an option. Chairman Bredael asked the Committee if they would like to consider any other sites or reconsider any of the sites presented to them by staff at the earlier meeting. After a short discussion, all of the Committee members present spoke in favor of asking the Village Board for permission to develop a new Veterans' Memorial at Howard Memorial Park. The Committee feels that this area – with its close proximity to public parking, the VFW, and the current memorial – is the best location to develop a new Veterans' Memorial.

The Committee is asking for permission to develop the approximately two-acre area adjacent to the baseball field into a Veterans' Memorial that will properly honor all those from this area who have sacrificed to protect our freedoms and also teach the history of our nation's conflicts to future generations.