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GROSS MISMANAGEMENT, INEXPERIENCE, AND MISREPRESENTATION YIELDS MONUMENT OF MEDIOCRITY

This is what 11 years of gross project mismanagement, inexperience in project development and construction and non-transparency buys you. From a fully approved, landmark, architectural award winning caliber “Point of Honor Monument” and permitted at every level, to a two-dimensional patio with 6 flag poles. It’s a very bad joke.

As the original Architect of Record and original Monument designer with 10 years of plus 800 hours (documented), more than all the other Committee members combined, of pro-bono contributions and investment I have the official Monument project records and history in my possession. My professional and personal investment in our Veterans Monument represented my community service, leadership and involvement for our landmark project. I gave the Monument project its’ name and in 2008 and along with my wife created the original Monument project defining and fund raising brochure. Look at all of those who were originally supportive and involved, and where are they now, where did they all go?

Over the course of the past 11 years that the project has been active, there have been over 30 individuals too many to identify herein who have come and gone within the Monument Committee, which was a big part of the Project problem. Doug Plack was the founding Veterans Monument President and subsequently the Vice President over the years. Harlan Ziegler took over as President in 2008, mis-leading and mis-managing the Monument project up to the present. For a long time Sparky Countess was heavily involved until his unfortunate medical issues.





There have also been numerous Veteran Committee Treasurers over the many years. Committee Monument project Grant Fund Raisers have included: Ben Cameron, the Late Tommy Sparrow, Doug Plack, Craig Bradford, Aadam Trask of which all failed in securing one single Monument Grant in 10 years. This represents gross mismanagement and follow-through on each of their parts individually and collectively.

The past couple years Kelly Schellong volunteered and has been tasked to head up local Fund Raising efforts to salvage something, and has done a good job all things considered. And earlier this year Pacific Power donated a \$3,000 Grant to the Monument project. As it turns out, too little, too late.

Since early 2008 Dave of Hemmingsen Construction had provided our Committee an estimate of plus \$450,000. Everybody on the Committee knew the costs and there was a lot of talk about pursuing and securing numerous available Grants to substantially fund the Monument as it was never the intent that local fund raising would pay for much of the Monument. But after 10 years of talk, promises and hope, including the hiring of Grant Consultants, not one Monument Project Grant was secured. And in fact the Committee got absolutely nothing from the paid Grant Consultants they hired, Outrageous. In the Private Sector there would for certain be full accountability and associated terminations. But what you all in the community don't know, you therefore cannot respond to accordingly.

And when the Monument project was initiated in 2007 why did the leadership of the Veterans Committee not file for a 501c3 as a Non-Profit Organization until 2016, receiving the status in August? Just gross mismanagement and lack of experienced project development and

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construction! And you have to be aware that all Funds and Donations made all the many years within the community could not be transferred to the Monument (previously received) to the new 501c3 status. So where is the accountability of all of the funds raised and collected over all the years. What, when and how was it spent? Where's the total transparency? I

received a grand token total of \$100 of Shell Gas Card.

I will herein publish the official Veterans Funds Records collected per my official Committee Meeting Minutes 2008-2017 for your information and consideration.

- (1) 3/26/08 \$16,500 per Plack report
- (2) 6/11/08 "Fund Raising Committee Suspended at this point"
- (3) 9/10/08 \$17,000 per Harlan report
- (4) 10/20/10 \$14,366.48 per Harlan report
- (5) 4/27/11 \$16,049.48 per Harlan report
- (6) 5/7/14 \$13,904 per Harlan report
- (7) 1/23/15 \$19,000 per Bradford report
- (8) 11/23/16 \$35,687.12 per Harlan report
- (9) 12/15/16 \$35,329.37 per Harlan report
- (10) 1/10/17 \$35,329.37 per Treasurers report ("In 2016, \$8,109.75 in Fund Raising and \$16,861 in Donations were raised.") "Fund Raising: The Palconis gave a \$1,000 donation that was deposited in the Chase Account."

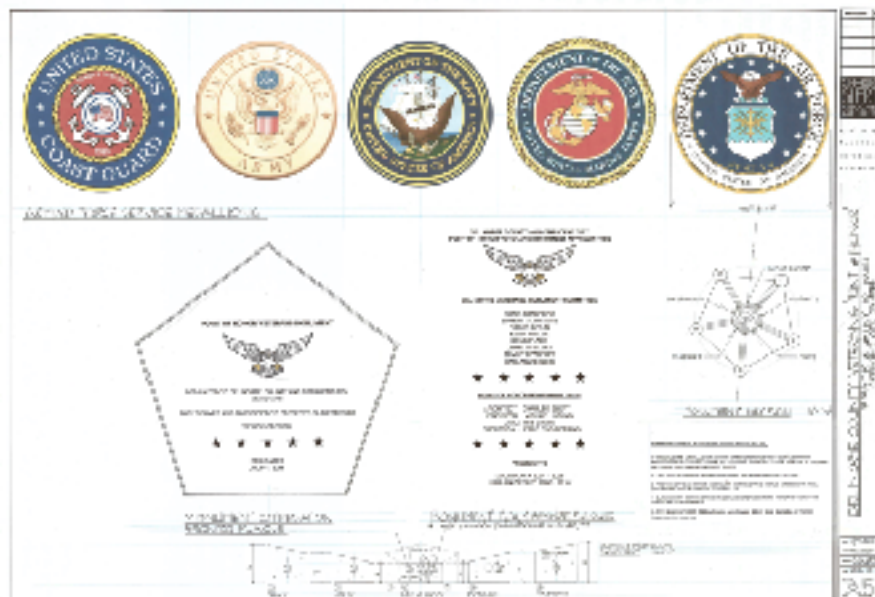
I have no more recent updates as they were not provided to me. How much in Fund Raising Records, by whom, when? How much in Donations Records, by whom and when? Identify how many Veteran Committee Accounts (at one time Humboldt Area Foundation Account, Six Rivers Foundation Account, North Valley Account, Chase Account.

So as a result, when the Committee realized it total failures, what did they do? They voted last May 29, 2017 to "Abandon" (throw the baby out with the bath water and finally telling me for the first time in writing in August, after my inquiry on our project status) regarding my original, fully approved and permitted "Point of Honor Monument." In their infinite wisdom they

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had to start all over again. Now that's leadership and gratitude. They had to create a new and different design, apply for amending my original design with the California Coastal Commission, prepare new drawing documents and associated engineering and apply for a new "Building Permit." Thus delaying your civic project yet another year plus while enduring additional, to this point, undefined costs.

It is also important to note that our Monument project started going down hill substantially when Aadam Trask was brought aboard as Project Manager in late 2015. For starters he did not manage our project and appeared to know nothing about professional construction project management, processes or Chain of Command. This is in addition to failing to affectively do any Monument Fund Raising which he was also tasked to do. Additionally, he failed to secure any documented "In-Kind" donations or contributions of Labor and/or materials on the part of local area contractors, subcontractors or suppliers, which he stated he had many contacts and could do that. I even prepared and provided him and the Committee with a drafted legal Agreement for "In-Kind" Contributions, of which he never secured even one of such. Pathetic! Additionally, he chose to lie to me when I inquired, on repeated documented occasions as well as the Committee about changes being made behind my back as the Project Architect to my design and Construction Drawings without conferring with me a getting my approval prior, since it was my



professional CA State Architects License and Stamp on my "Permitted

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Drawings”, which directly puts my professional License and professional liability at risk. The fact that he would even propose such let alone do such told me right away he was a “Cowboy” when it came to project construction and management. As project manager he continually mismanaged and mislead the Committee and Harlan Ziegler as President. And how did that work out? “Abandon” my approved, permitted original Monument. Hopeless decision.



Also on Supervisor Berkowitz FaceBook site I see several uninformed individuals going off about this thing and that regarding the Monument. I will correct some of those people. My original Monument design always had Military Medallions and Plaques with the engraving of the names of each local Veteran who had served and sacrificed (by Branch of Armed Force served in). You may also recall that the Veterans had an internal struggle regarding if the Monument should be six-sided or five-sided to include the Merchant Marines. It still took an entire year for the six-sided advocates to cease their ongoing resistance. My Five-Sided Pentagram-Walled Monument design included the Merchant Marines under the Department of the Navy which is where they occur. See my original design drawings and my Construction drawings.

I also see some reference to the “wood” structure. For specific clarification we (myself, the late Steve Anderson, Ben Cameron and Jim Snow) constructed the, to scale, Monument “Wood Mockett” for photographic documentation which was required by the CA Coastal Commission regarding possible impact or lack thereof on views. Once that information was achieved and provided to the Coastal Commission the mock-up was removed accordingly.

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I also noticed some complaining about the location of the original Monument, why there instead of Beach Font Park and how much did the land cost? Actually, the State of CA owns all of that land and donated the corner site to us for our Monument after reviewing, discussing and considering several sites, which also included associated issues like guest parking, restrooms and visibility, etc. Where were you during all of those public presentations and actions; including the Planning Commission and City Council hearings and actions? Obviously, things don't just happen willy nilly, but rather go through a rigorous public process before being acted on and approved.

I also noticed that Tamara Trask, wife of hopeless Project Manager Aadam Trask wishes to talk about the long process of State Regulations and Building Codes involved, which had substantially all been approved prior to Aadam coming aboard, but then his misguided and misinformed changes to my original design and approvals contributed to yet further project delays. Not to mention his not performing his tasks of Fund Raising and securing any "In-Kind" contributions as previously herein identified. And ultimately the whole project had to be "Abandoned" per the



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Committee resulted in yet an additional year plus delays. And you may or probably are not aware that no Monument site construction can proceed between Oct. 31 and Apr. 15th due to the wet season.

And then someone questioned, what if there was a tsunami? Actually, my original designed Monument was designed and to be constructed to withstand a tsunami event of any kind, per the requirements of the CA Coastal Commission.

What's the old saying, "What you see is what you get." In the case of your "New" Point of Honor Monument nothing could be further from the truth. See for yourself. There is no Monument? And how much is this 2-dimensional piece of flat crap, "Patio" ultimately costing the community? Plus \$100,000.? Nobody knows because the Committee refuses to not divulge any information or respond to any inquires, Sorry, you all have been used, mislead and duped.

I would also note that at no time in the 10 years of my personal hands-on leadership was the issue of my original Point of Honor Monument cost

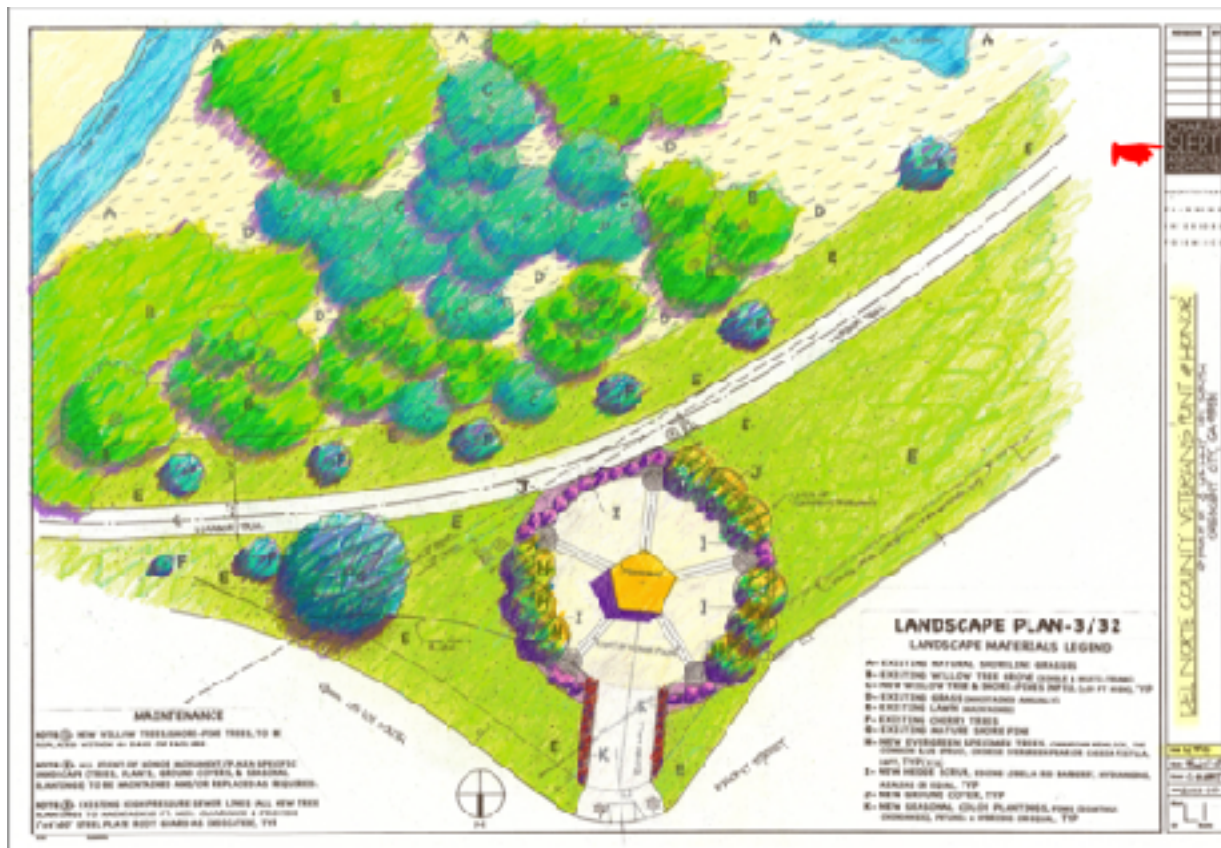


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ever raised or a concern! Additionally, there was never any documentation of any-kind over the 10 years questioning or suggesting any concerns. Nor was it ever suggested or raised the notion of “Value Engineering” of our project, which could have been done if so needed or desired. Once again gross mismanagement on the part of the Committee leadership of Ziegler, Plack, Trask, Bradford.

And by the way, after representing my original Monument design for 10 years to you as a community, fund raising, championing the approved and permitted Monument project and then, secretly change horses overnight, “Abandoning” the project with no public acknowledgment to you the sponsoring and supportive community. Absolutely unbelievable while deplorable actions on the Committee’s part. These are your representatives, clearly they don’t have your back as it’s all about covering their asses.

And where has the Del Norte Triplicate been this entire past year regarding this major civic project? Completely missing in action, by design, collusion.



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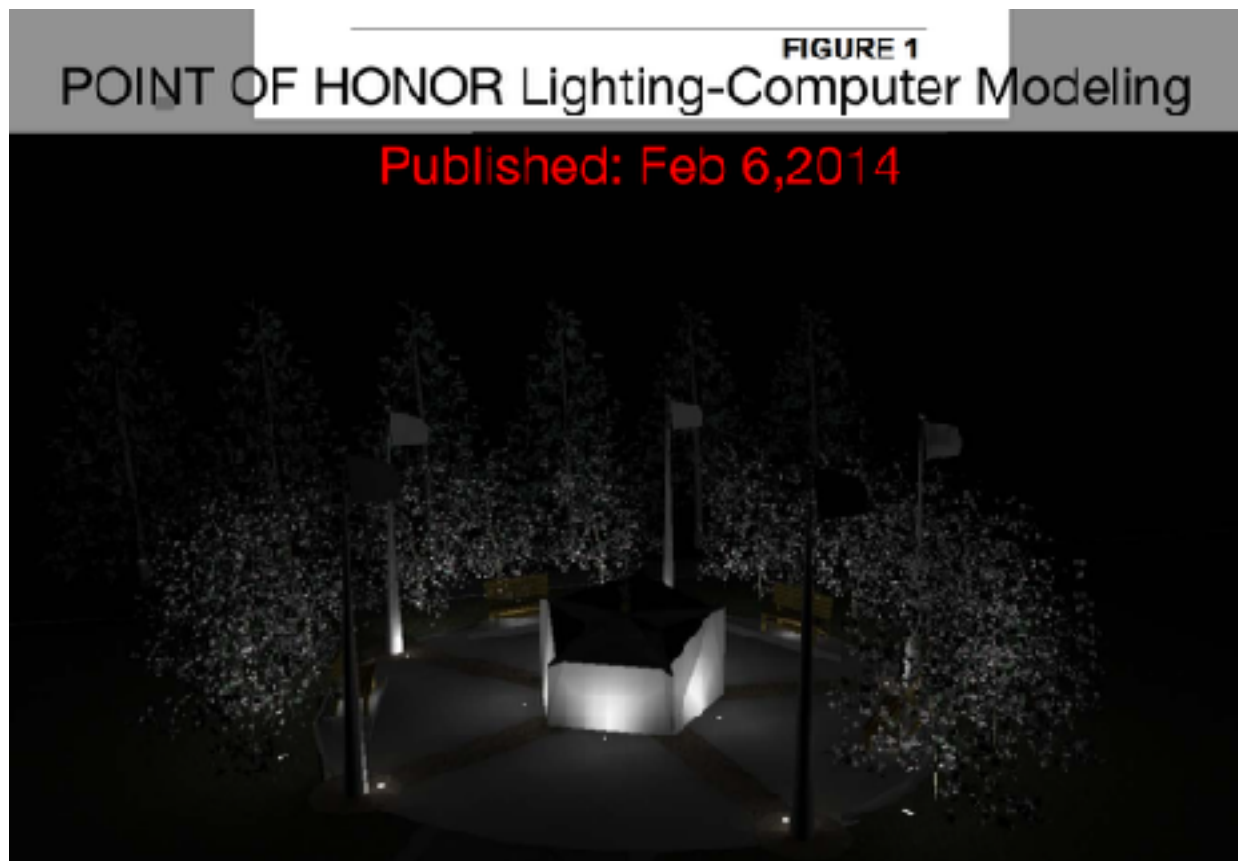
My original Monument design consisted of a 12ft high sliced pentagram-walled structure that included all Veterans names (by Branch of Service) on the various five-sides. Seating benches were provided for users and visitors to pause, sit, honor, pay tribute and respects in a partially enclosed setting (by the embracing Landscape back drop which offered some semi-intimacy within the larger Monument.) The result was the making of/ defining of five-outdoor sub-rooms (spaces) all of which comprised the whole of the larger Monument as an outdoor room of celebration. All of these points were fully defined and mentioned in my original brochures and subsequent required written submittals to various authorities. Now in your “New” nondescript, hapless design I see no landscape provisions? Nice!

And Mr. Mayor Blake Inscore I find it pretty amazing that as a community leader and I believe you were on the Planning Commission when my original Point of Honor Monument was presented and approved. In addition to being on the City Council when we presented and re-presented the whole maintenance issues and associated costs. And now you are proud of what the Monument has been reduced to. It's disgusting and embarrassing. You should be the one asking the tough questions; (1) Specifically, why did the Committee after 10 years make the radical departure from the original fully approved Monument? (2) How much, specifically is this new iteration costing the community. (3) Where is the year by year accounting over the past now 11 years of all Fund Raising, who contributed and what has been spent, when and for what? And how much more is still needed? Instead, I think there is a little gentleman's deal with yourself and your buddy Craig Bradford and the Committee to just avoid all of those issues, so as to save face for somebody. That represents poor leadership and civic accountability. (4) And why has the Committee specifically gone out of its' way the past year to be non-transparent about their actions, no responses, no statements just ongoing deception and you're not questioning that? Shame. That doesn't sound very Christian. Would you knowingly really participate in that kind of behavior? Amazing.



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What your Veterans Committee should have done is chosen to have been very transparent to you as a community and inform you that they had grossly failed to secure any Monument Grants in the past 10 years and at this point they were going to have to “Abandon” (their words) the original concept, create a new concept, get the community by-in and multiple approvals once again from the Planning Commission, The City Council, the Coastal Commission and the Building Department after preparing new construction documents and engineering, re-apply for Coastal and Building Permits, But instead they knowingly and willfully, collectively, through specific plotting and collusion chose not to address any of the issues or the forth coming Monument project proposed changes to you the Veterans and/or community. What happened to the Veterans Committee honor, integrity and civic trust? Basically, they chose to make their catastrophic changes and modifications to your Veterans Point of Honor Monument behind closed doors with no accountability or transparency to anyone, the Veterans or the greater community. Choices! Poor leadership, poor management and poor follow-through. So now you get what they can pull together. The actions of your Veterans Committee are disgusting and deplorable and you as a collective community will be forced to live with the resultant fiasco. No accountability and no responsibility on the part of the Committee you the supporting community. This looks a lot like “good old- boy,” civic corruption!



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As song writer Bob Dylan wrote, "You don't need a weatherman to know which way the wind blows." In Crescent City/Del Norte County regarding the Point of Honor Monument, the winds of mismanagement, deception, misrepresentation and mediocrity continue to blow. Too bad Crescent City, Del Norte County and Veterans. I offer these clarifications of our Monument history for your information and consideration, as a former Vietnam Veteran Combat Infantryman Sergeant, Original "Point of Honor" Architect of Record, and your former City Councilman and Mayor. Your civic loss!

Thank You,

Charles Slert, FARA/Architect

