

Sikes, Audrey

From: Christopher Esing <christopheresing@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2022 3:33 PM
To: Sikes, Audrey
Subject: Re: War on Terror Memorial for Agenda for City Council Meeting for 2/22/2022

I am suggesting that the monument be to all those who fought and served recognizing the ultimate sacrifice payed by Lance Cpl. Ronald Douglas Freeman of the U.S. Marine Corp. Killed May 2011 while fighting in Afghanistan. I have spoken with the National Guard, and they agree that it should be one memorial dedicated to the Soldiers who fought in the War on Terror as part of the Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. I will work with the National Guard, the American Legion, and the V.F.W. on the appropriate working. As far as we can tell, Lance Cpl. Ronald Douglas Freeman is the only soldier who paid the ultimate sacrifice from Lake City, so his name will be listed, but the memorial will be dedicated in the name of all who served. I will research costs, but I have already had a number of individuals and groups pledge to help pay for the cost of the memorial. It will be the same size as the other memorials that are already there to maintain the look of the existing memorial garden. There is space for two or three, so space will not be a problem. I will post a picture of Lance Cpl. Ronald Douglas Freeman. I have spoken with his widow, and should would like a memorial to be able to take their children to show them that the sacrifice that their father made is recognized by the community.

Thank You,
Chris



Chris

On Wednesday, February 16, 2022, 12:35:47 PM CST, Sikes, Audrey <sikesa@lcfla.com> wrote:

Good afternoon. You are on the agenda for the 22nd. Do you have any supporting documentation you would like to provide? Thanks and have a great day.

Audrey E. Sikes, MMC
City Clerk
City of Lake City
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From: Christopher Esing <christopheresing@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 8, 2022 1:10 AM
To: Sikes, Audrey <SikesA@lcfla.com>
Subject: War on Terror Memorial for Agenda for City Council Meeting for 2/22/2022

Greetings,

I am reaching out to ask the City Council for permission to erect a historic marker in Olustee Park dedicated to the soldiers who fought and paid the ultimate sacrifice in the war on terror from Lake City. I am planning to dedicate the marker on Memorial Day 2022. Now that the war is over, I would like to erect a monument in the war memorial circle at Olustee Park. The memorial will be placed in honor of all those who served in Iraq and Afghanistan from Columbia County. It will also pay tribute to Lance Cpt. Ronald Douglas Freeman who was killed in May 2011 while fighting in Helmand, Afghanistan. I am inviting everyone from the public to attend, and if anyone would like to honor or pay tribute to any who served, I am offering them the opportunity to honor them. My goal is to dedicate the marker on May 30th which is Memorial Day. I have not set a program, but my goal is to work with the American Legion, the National Guard, and the V.F.W. to set a proper memorial program. I am asking anyone who served from Lake City in the War on Terror to plan to attend the dedication of the historic marker. I am working with Veterans groups in town to cover the cost. The marker will be built in the same size and style as the other war memorials in the park. I appreciate your support and permission to use Olustee Park on the day of the dedication. I also request and invite all on the council to attend the dedication ceremony.

Thank You,

Dr. Christopher M. Esing

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