



# Floyd Minch Post 44 of The American Legion

129 South 7th Street, Worland, Wyoming 82401 307 347-4671

**Justin Pfeiffer, Commander**

**Don Hall, Adjutant**

## Veterans Park Improvement Proposal



Worland City Council:

January 5, 2012



American Legion Post 44 and VFW Post 3093 are here to put forth a proposal for improvements at Veterans Park and seek the city's permission for the project, cooperation and advice on how best to proceed. Veterans Park was dedicated as such by the Worland City Council in 1987 at the request of Post 44. We had hopes of making improvements sooner, but, as with most volunteer service organizations, the right combination of financial stability, manpower and passion for a project are difficult to put together all in the same place at the same time.

It has taken nearly a quarter-century to have all these elements together, but we now believe we are ready to start the process. Many of the leaders of our Posts and this effort are veterans who were just entering the Worland school system when Post 44 conceived the idea of a veterans park. Fast forward 25 years and these young men and women are now veterans of the Gulf War, Iraq and Afghanistan who have come back to their home town and are ready to undertake a long term community service project on top of their normal jobs, veterans' and community service activities.

The multi-year Legion - VFW project will involve four major elements: a picnic shelter, all new equipment for the playground, a memorial to all veterans from Washakie County in all wars, and an artillery piece mounted as a static display in honor of our heritage as an artillery town, being home to the 300th Armored Field Artillery and Charlie Battery, 2nd of the 300th Field Artillery, both Wyoming Army National Guard units.

We would like to progress in the order outlined above, starting with the shelter. First we need to find out from the city whether it approves of the projects, and then how much space will be available so we can determine the size and shape of the shelter and the potential location of the memorial and artillery piece.

All of this will be done on a funds-available basis and we would consult with the city whenever we plan to move to the next phase. The only exception to that is the artillery piece, which would be obtained from the U.S. Army TACOM, and we have no idea what that timetable will be. It could be costly to the post as well, as the army would let us take possession of the piece only "at no cost to the government". It would be up to us to get it here from wherever it is stored.

This is an ambitious endeavor for the members of our posts, and the timeline to complete the entire vision is impossible to estimate at this point. However, it is our intention to complete the shelter phase as soon as possible after we get permission to begin the project. All of the Legion and VFW Veterans and particularly the new, hometown veterans, who were children when the park was dedicated, are determined to develop Veterans Park into a showplace for the community and a special outdoor area designed to honor the veterans of Washakie County for their service to the United States for nearly a century.

Sincerely,

Justin D. Pfeiffer, Commander Post 44

Randy C. Reed, Commander, VFW Post 3093

Don Hall, Adjutant

James L. Bailey, Jr., Adjutant

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Private Floyd Minch, E Co. 361st Infantry, 91st Infantry Division, "Wild West", American Expeditionary Forces. Born 27 November, 1895 in Maywood, Missouri. Entered Service from Worland, Washakie County, Wyoming 1917, Killed in Action Oct. 8, 1918 in Meuse-Argonne Drive, France. Interred at Hesper Baptist Church Cemetery, Marion County, Missouri.

