

Hi Chip,

I don't know who on the Historical review committee to address this letter to so hopefully you'll pass this on. Almost 20 years ago Ben Martino from Public Works asked me to take a look at the deteriorating monument. There were 20 stones I determined needed to be replaced. As I tried to get the stone from the quarry at the Fish Ranch political and environmental issues began to arise. I asked Mike Brown to assist me. After short time Mike LePage joined the team. Many years later Ian Martin appeared and helped with PR, fund raising and became the historian with the purpose of writing a book on the monument. Richard Kreitman arrived on the scene with the bell. When they arrived, the project took on a whole different agenda. Mike Brown and I were not included in any new plaque discussions or planning leading up to the Historical resource meeting. Obviously, we don't agree or approve it.

It is my opinion we restored the monument, we did our job. But in no way should we change history and add names and plaques to the memorialized vets who put their lives on the line that the monument salutes.....no one else.

If you feel the need to recognize Carmelites that helped the war effort, do it by proclamation and hang it in City Hall.

Thanks Chip

Brian McEldowney