

Before inviting Mr. Tierney, our very own US Navy Mustang, to speak I would like to take a moment to highlight the subtle but meaningful components of the Veterans Park design.

We are all familiar with the honors rendered by a 21-gun salute, and so the number 21 was incorporated into the layout with the posts behind me being set 21 feet from the flagpole and separated by 21 degrees of arc.

The posts, cut from NH granite, represent not only each of the branches of the US military, but also the members of our community that answered the call to service, standing tall, true and resilient

Facing East, standing guard, watching the sun rise on a new day in this great Nation.

The section of stonewall before me, so prevalent in the NH landscape, represents the families of those in uniform, still at home, beneath the Flag and the protections, rights and freedoms that it represents.

The benches are set back to allow visitors to see it all and reflect on the on answering the call to service.

And now, I'll turn it over to Mr. Tierney for his remarks and presentation of the plaque and the dedication of the park.