

**PIONEERS' CEMETERY ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING MINUTES
SMURTHWAITE HOUSE/WEBEX**

Thursday, February 2, 2023

PCA Board Members present:

Smurthwaite House

Patty Gault, President
Debe Branning
Donna Carr
Kim Kasper
Sterling Foster
Mark Lamm

Webex

Jenn Merry
Cindy Lee, Vice-President
Val Wilson, Treasurer
Vicki Galli

PCA Board Members absent:

Ileen Snoddy, Secretary
Ed Dobbins, Historian

PCA Advisory Board Members present:

Smurthwaite House

Margy Parisella

Webex

Pamela Stewart

PCA Advisory Board Members absent:

Judy Smith
Marshall Shore
Frank Barrios
Ryan Vander Ark

PCA Members present:

Smurthwaite House

Vivia Strang
Denise Foster

Webex

Lezlee Alexander

Discussion/Action

Call to order: President Patty Gault called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

Approval of January 5, 2023 Minutes: Delayed until March Board meeting

Treasurers Report: Val Wilson, Treasurer

- a. Beginning Balance - \$29,957.69
- b. Ending Balance - \$30,773.70

OLD BUSINESS

Cars and Art Event – Val reported that 37 people attended this event. We made a total of \$153 which included \$53 in donations. We sold two PMMP books and two Gold Mountain books. Attendees reported they enjoyed cars and artists and really enjoyed the author talks.

Fire Alarm Update – Patty reported that the new fire alarm is in and final inspection completed. We need to follow up with the City concerning the emergency lighting not working because of battery issues. There will be training on the new panel immediately after the Board meeting.

Sotelo Heard Update – Mark reported that a meeting occurred last Saturday (January 28) with the Collective and they are wanting to help preserve the cemetery. The delay right now is the three way land trade that is being worked on between the City, Trellis and the Collective. Once the Collective has the property, it will be mainly used for farm land in support of the community. Future meetings with the Collective are in the works.

Work In South Cemetery – Mark said that over 50 holes were filled in the south cemetery where flooding occurred last month because of the blocked storm drain along Harrison. It took about an hour and half with 7 City trucks and around 15 personnel. Additional holes discovered other than from the flooding were also filled at the same time.

Jacob Waltz Committee Update – Margy, Vivia and Sterling gave a presentation on the current ideas the committee has developed for including around the Jacob Waltz burial site. A handout was given to attendees of the meeting at the Smurthwaite. Copies will be sent to those who attended via Webex. Vivia began with a presentation of the historical significance of Jacob Waltz and the reason behind the additions. Sterling covered the timeline of accomplishing the phases of the project the Committee is working on. With this beginning phase, they would like to place a concrete bench similar to what is along the Avenue of Flags near the site for visitors. Some of the boulders that were temporarily placed near the site will be removed leaving a select few. The mortuary markers along the walkway placed during the archaeological survey done by K.J. Schroeder would be replaced by a brick marker that is presently authorized for use by the Memorial Marker Committee. The City would be asked to add composite granite around the site. These ideas can be accomplished with little or no cost. A monument to Jacob Waltz can come later as the cost would be significant and would require donations and fundraising. Margy handed out site plans that better show the additions that are being proposed. The monument would be the same size as the Chinese monument, about 5'. The committee asked the Board to approve the first phase of the plan, which would be: prune and clean the site, purchase and install the concrete bench (which has been paid for), place the boulder that would eventually hold a plaque, placement of select boulders, replace mortuary markers with bricks along walkway, and spread decomposed granite around the site. Val asked if there were any projected costs for the project. With the first phase the only projected cost is the replacement of the mortuary markers with the approved Memorial Marker bricks, which is something the Memorial Marker Committee has discussed in the past. Cindy asked where the placement for the boulder holding the plaque would be and Margy stated over by the bench and Patty further described the placement using the site plan. Lezlee offered up services when the Committee is ready for PR for fundraising and help with the project through media resources.

Val made a motion to approve the current plan that the Jacob Waltz Committee has submitted with the estimated time lines and projects. Jenn seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and Board approved the motion.

NEW BUSINESS

COMMITTEES

Memorial Marker – Sterling stated that five Memorial Markers have been ordered. Eighteen Memorial Markers that had already been received have temporarily been placed. He said that additional orders will be on hold until these are placed. A military marker received will be placed in February.

Facilities – Mark said that new signage for the front and side fencing for the house has been placed by the City. The old signs had incorrect information and were badly worn. A termite inspector will be on property to look at the front porch where damage is evident. Patty told of a section of the fence along Harrison that was down. The City is working on a repair.

Membership – Kim related that our membership is standing at 61. Membership documentation is in transition and being worked through.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Grave Marker Preservation – Cindy said that the conservator will arrive soon and preservation will begin on Saturday to continue through Sunday and Monday.

Hat & High Tea – Debe said that there are 36 paid and 42 reservations. Another email blast will be sent out as a reminder. Help is still needed to help set up and clean up.

Murder Mystery – Patty said that at this time it is still scheduled for March 25, but another run through has been requested.

Memorial Day – Patty said that discussing this with other volunteers we are probably going to focus on keeping the event small and reaching out to the military groups we have had in the past.

REQUEST TO FILM IN HOUSE – Sterling said that he was contacted by Tim Trotter who requested he be allowed to use the interior of the house and porch for a film he is creating for a class at Grand Canyon University. The filming would be for a school project and would be submitted to the Almost Famous Film Festival. It is a 1920's love story involving a gangster. The group would be filming on February 18th and will be supervised by Sterling. The Board agreed to allow the filming.

QUARTERLY REPORT – Patty reminded everyone of the Quarterly Report and the importance that we all submit our volunteer hours.

OTHER BUSINESS

VOLUNTEER HOURS – Please remember to send in hours to Denise.

Meeting adjourned at 11:11 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Patty Gault