

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

Thursday, May 4, 2023

PCA Board Members present:

Smurthwaite House

Patty Gault, President
Cindy Lee, Vice-President
Debe Branning
Ed Dobbins
Donna Carr
Mark Lamm
Vicki Galli

Webex

Jenn Merry
Val Wilson, Treasurer
Kim Kasper

PCA Board Members absent:

Sterling Foster
Ed Dobbins, Historian

PCA Advisory Board Members present:

Webex

Pamela Stewart

PCA Advisory Board Members absent:

Margy Parisella
Judy Smith
Marshall Shore
Frank Barrios
Ryan Vander Ark

PCA Members present:

Smurthwaite House

Bob Cox

Webex

Lezlee Alexander
Vivia Strang

Visitor Webex

Margaret Hangan

Discussion/Action

Call to order: President Patty Gault called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Approval of April 6, 2023 Minutes: Delayed until June Board meeting

Treasurers Report: Val Wilson, Treasurer

- a. Beginning Balance - \$26,931.07
- b. Ending Balance - \$27,040.69

Val also announced that a financial review will occur May 20, 2023 at 11 am and requested anyone who would like to monitor to contact her.

OLD BUSINESS

Jacob Waltz – Mark showed photos of the progress of the project and the placement of the boulders, bench placement and where the plaque will be placed. The plaque has been ordered. Awaiting granite and then will begin with next phase.

Sotelo Heard Update – Mark reported that the transfer of the property between Trellis and the Collective is about two months away. The Collective will be setting up a meeting with PCA to discuss the renovation. Mark said that Tim Diaz and he meeting with the Collective about once a month.

Memorial Day Prep – Patty announced that Memorial Day plans will be discussed after the Board meeting. There are about seven groups that wish to participate. We are still in need of a bugler. Anyone that can help with this event please contact Patty.

Bench for Porter Cemetery – The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War has donated funding for a bench in Porter. Unfortunately the bench from Wabash that was to be ordered is no longer available from the company. Therefore the 4' Tree Top Bench that was previously approved for placement is the desired replacement by the group.

NEW BUSINESS

COMMITTEES

Memorial Marker – The Committee has discussed holding off on accepting any further donations by groups to the account. The account presently has an abundance of funding. We also need to get the current markers that were ordered placed. It is suggested that if any group wishes to make a donation it be directed to other projects such as Jacob Waltz, Grave Marker Preservation or the General Fund. We will still be accepting family requests.

Facilities –

Membership – Cindy related that our membership is standing at 83, 30 less than last year. She has sent out recovery letters from last year and will go back to previous years.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 6 – Brooch Event – Debe reported they have 17 reservations and 4 have paid.

May 11 – Lunch for City – Everyone is invited to the lunch which will be hosted by us for the City landscaping crew. It will begin at 11 am.

May 29 – Memorial Day – On track.

AFRICAN AMERICAN BURIAL PROJECT – Jenn introduced Margaret Hangan who is a large project archaeologist with the Tonto National Forest. She is also a member of the Black Family Genealogy and History Society. A project has been in the works with AHS and Margaret to access the black burials in Arizona. PCA is being asked if we can help with this project once the groundwork has been laid out on how the project will be accomplished. Margaret said that their organization is contacted on a continual basis requesting help in locating burial information. The hope is to develop a database. Her organization is not equipped to do this on their own. She would like to develop a

partnership with other organizations to create this database. Jenn invited anyone interested in this project to attend a Zoom meeting that will be occurring with an Ohio group that has completed such a project. It will be on May 16th at 11 AM.

LIGHT RAIL MEETING – Patty said the meeting will be on Wednesday, May 24th, 9 AM at the Smurthwaite House.

OTHER BUSINESS

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

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted by Patty Gault

Meeting with the City of Phoenix Parks & Recs at house on May 11th, 9:30 a.m.

Newsletter Dates 2023: May 27 – June Newsletter

August 26 – September Newsletter

November 25 – December Newsletter