

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

Thursday, October 5th, 2023

PCA Board Members present:

Smurthwaite House

Patty Gault, President
Cindy Lee, Vice-President
Ed Dobbins, Historian
Debe Branning
Donna Carr
Kim Kasper
Vicki Galli
Sterling Foster
Mark Lamm

Webex

Jenn Merry
Val Wilson, Treasurer

PCA Advisory Board Members present:

Smurthwaite House

Margy Parisella

Webex

Pamela Stewart

PCA Advisory Board Members absent:

Judy Smith
Marshall Shore
Ryan Vander Ark

PCA Members present:

Smurthwaite House

Denise Foster

Webex

Vivia Strang
Lezlee Alexander

Discussion/Action

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

Approval of September 7, 2023 Minutes: Minutes accepted as presented to the Board.

Treasurers Report: Val Wilson

- a. Beginning Balance - \$27,464.04
- b. Ending Balance - \$27,405.46

OLD BUSINESS

Jarrold Riddle, Owner/Operator of Spirit of Arizona Tours

His tours are history based and he is interested in including Pioneer Military & Memorial Park Cemeteries on his tour list. He has a bus that holds a maximum of 14 people and his average group is 6 – 8. He has a million dollar per person liability insurance policy. He charges \$65 per person for

his tours. The cemeteries would be included in some of his other tours. If need be, Jarrod is willing to alter his tours to include the cemeteries in weekend specials (Friday through Sunday) so a volunteer would be available to open the gates.

Cindy Lee made a motion to give Jarrod's Spirit of Arizona Tours a try in hopes of bringing attention to our cemeteries. It was seconded by Sterling Foster. Motion was accepted.

Other discussions on this topic included the letter of understanding guidelines, that should require a signature, and that anyone under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult, along with clauses that could be amended if need be. Any future tours will need to adhere to this letter. We also need to determine a charge, whether percentage or flat fee, for a volunteer to be available during tours. Cindy will change the agreement as needed and the motion was carried. Patty will notify the City of Phoenix of any upcoming tours.

Jacob Waltz Update

Margy Parisella shared the design and wording for the Jacob Waltz Monument. The size, scale and materials are exactly as the Chinese Monument. Discussion was made on removing several dates and wording that was redundant. Ed Dobbins motioned to accept the amended design and wording and Mark Lamm 2nd it. Motion was accepted. The committee can now move forward on having the design for the monument sandblasted which will take approximately 6 weeks. The cost of the monument was about \$7,300 and will be done by a local who has done work for the Japanese Friendship Gardens.

The Jacob Waltz committee put together a list of 23 Historical groups that they will call or contact through a letter for fundraising purposes. Patty Gault asks that somewhere in the letter it should mention any monies left over be put into the general fund for perpetual care for Jacob Waltz's Monument and other areas of the cemeteries in need. A \$1,000 grant had already been done.

The Board approved fundraising for the committee.

T-SHIRT Update

A committee of 4 has met multiple times to discuss and decide on the design and color of new T-shirt ideas for the PCA Gift shop. They shared ideas of color and outline for the new t-shirt. It will say "History with a Plot" and will have the Pioneers' Cemetery Association name on it. They will have a local company print the design once approved by the Board next meeting. The designer has agreed to allow PCA to use a design to then place a t-shirt on the BONFIRE website to fundraiser for PCA. This means we do not have to keep a stock of shirts at the house and the public can order on-line. Once we get an illustration we will vote on it and move forward. A 40th Anniversary PCA t-shirt was talked about as a possible fundraiser for a limited time.

Nomination Committee Update

Cindy Lee, the chairman of the committee is in need of 4 people to begin planning for the 2024 election.

2024 Calendar

To be discussed at lunch. We need to start planning for next year.

NEW BUSINESS

Upcoming Events

Anasazi & Cactus Wren DAR House Cleaning – DAR ladies have graciously offered to come & assist PCA volunteers in cleaning the upstairs of the Smurthwaite House on Saturday, October 7th.

Murder Mystery – This event is Saturday, October 21st, and is a sellout!!

Open House – October 28th, Saturday

Deaccession of old chairs – The Board approved getting rid of the dining chairs that are beginning to break.

OTHER BUSINESS

Tim Breitenstein told us that the fencing is to finally be replaced.

Volunteer Hours – Please remember to send in hours to Denise.

November Members Meeting will be November 2nd at 10 am.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Meeting with the City of Phoenix Parks & Recs at house on October 12th, 9:30 a.m.

Newsletter Dates 2023: November 25 – December Newsletter

Respectfully submitted by Denise Foster.