

**PIONEERS' CEMETERY ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
MINUTES**

SMURTHWAITE HOUSE/ZOOM Thursday, Jan. 8, 2026

PCA Board Members present:

Patty Gault, President
Cindy Lee, Vice President
Val Wilson, Treasurer
Jenn Merry, Secretary
Ed Dobbins, Historian
Donna Carr
Sterling Foster
Mark Lamm
Tom Yount
Debe Branning
Kim Kasper
Jarrod Riddle

Other Members Present:

Lezlee Alexander
Denise Foster

PCA Board Members absent:

Brittany Heingardner, Advisor
Steve Schumaker, Advisor
Vicki Galli, Board
Margy Parisella, Advisor
Pamela Stewart, Advisor
Judy Smith, Advisor

Discussion/Action

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

Approval of December 4, 2025 Minutes: Approved.

Treasurers Report: Val Wilson's report read by Patty Gault: as of December 1st -
Beginning Balance - \$41,512.63; Ending Balance - \$41,479.18

OLD BUSINESS

Letter to the City: Discussion on where to send it (ie. social media and who to copy on it) Mayor's office needs it, All council members, SHPO, copy Phoenix SHPO, news outlets. Photos need to be added.

January 24: Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable - on a bus tour, first stop PMMP. 8AM - Jarrod Riddle/Bob Cox/Ed Dobbins leading; open house same day for Valentine's making and Debe will be in early for that. Flags will be put out Thursday before.

Porter Cemetery: Weeds are really bad right now after recent rains, need to mention to the City to have them clean it up before the Jan. 24 tour.

LIDAR map: Ed had mentioned the NAU student, Kate Gordon, who was going to take LIDAR photos of the cemetery and create a map. She came Monday but didn't get to do much due to some activity around the area and will have to come back, plus will need some additional licensing. She will work on this over the semester and come back.

Historian's report: The point is to have everybody look at that and see whether there's any glaring errors or omissions. Ed took it from the monthly minutes and the reports by the various committees. Highlights this year: Jacob Waltz's grave area enhancements, and the final scheduled season for preservation with Joe Ferrannini. Disappointments were the House not getting finished and confusion over the light rail.

Calendar:

Jan. 24 is next open house/ Make and Take Valentines

Feb. 28 Open House, nothing planned except Southern Cross ceremony for Perry Wilson, same day

Feb. Preservation will just be working on lime washing.

NEW BUSINESS

Committee reports questions? No

Membership: numbers are slightly down, reminder to board members to send in their dues.

CAR Plaque: ready for installation, just need a date

Gold Mountain book: Donna has the 2nd edition of the Gold Mountain in the Desert, that will be available in the gift shop, 10% of proceeds of each sale to PCA. 2nd edition covers areas besides Phoenix, such as Tombstone, Flagstaff, Tucson, Casa Grande, Globe, etc. Need to fix the website for sales.

Light rail: Meeting next Thursday Jan. 15 at 10am.

Elections: This November, elections for PCA Board happen again. Cindy is setting up an elections committee.

Safe Outdoor Space: Tour being set up for anyone who wants to see the SOS over on 15th ave.

Other:

- Madison gates have two homeless encampments with fires being used. Will need to forward photos to the liaison. Need more police presence.
- Margaret Baker and one of her orgs are putting together a nomination for the Goodyear Cemetery.
- Loosely brick features Ed is researching to determine which are new and which have been here since the 40s. The Preservation committee should determine what should stay and what should go once research has been submitted, and then the Board should vote. More research needed though right now.

Volunteer Hours Reminder - Please send your hours to Denise.

Meeting Adjourned 10:51 a.m

Respectfully submitted by Jenn Merry