

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

Thursday, February 6, 2025

PCA Board Members present: Smurthwaite House

Patty Gault, President
Cindy Lee, Vice President
Debe Branning
Donna Carr
Kim Kasper
Mark Lamm
Sterling Foster
Tom Yount

Other Members Present:

Vivia Strang
Denise Foster

PCA Board Members absent:

Vicki Galli
Ed Dobbins, Historian

PCA Advisory Board Members present:

Margy Parisella

PCA Advisory Board Members absent:

Pamela Stewart
Judy Smith

On Zoom:

Lezlee Alexander
Jenn Merry, Secretary
Val Wilson, Treasurer
Steve Schumaker, advisor
Jarrod Riddle, advisor
Brittany Hinegardner, advisor

Discussion/Action

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

Approval of January 2, 2025 Minutes: No corrections. Minutes accepted as presented to the board.

Treasurers Report: Report given by Val Wilson
as of January 1st - Beginning Balance - \$33,843.23
as of December 31st - Ending Balance - \$49,663.75

Val clarified that a check from Frank Barrios' donation posted January 31

OLD BUSINESS

Jacob Waltz Dedication:

Dedication was January 11, it was wonderful and a lot of motorcycle visitors. Vivia gave a history of Jacob. Well attended, and there will be a report created and wrapped up after today's meeting. May continue with educational component ie. Educational book and the committee will potentially bring the concept to the board at the next meeting. Patty stated that the book is best handled as Ed's book was and as a separate item from the original project. Ed's book was reviewed by Donna and Lezlee, the Living History Committee. He also promoted and sold the book because PCA has limited gift shop days. Thanks to all PCA volunteers who came and helped. Steve Schumaker happy to be included and honor of cutting ribbon and says thank you.

Cementerio Lindo cremains: Found cremains in CL and PCA tried to identify, no luck. Other cremains have been in storage, also unidentified. Two options: Spread them in CL or we can hand them to Public Health. Asking for Board opinion. Sterling suggests spreading them as long as we document and photograph. Brittany advised spreading is a great idea and most meaningful to spread where they were left.

Committee Reports: No comments, other than the social media report, happy with the social media reception with the public and Val creating reels. Steve will share with his followers. Maybe collaboration between City and PCA, Val and Steve to chat.

Preservation: Cindy presented that Preservation when Conservator Joe Ferranini will be here starts Feb. 8, Will do plot fencing. Vendor quote is \$900. If it's found cheaper, any funds will go back to PCA. Sterling moves that PCA put \$900 for post preservation, and Val seconded. Unanimous approval.

Memorial for Ryan: Celebration of Life for Ryan Van Der Ark, former member that passed away. (During Preservation) His parents are bringing his pastor to say a few words. We will also ask the pastor to do a memorial for the cremains found at Cementerio Lindo and then spread them at Cementerio Lindo afterward. Val and Brittany will assist in taking photos and videos of all Preservation events for social media.

Social media: Talk to Val or Debe, only one to post at a time/per event. Tom's wife will post on Reddit for us, so let him know if we have events for her to post. Also let Lezlee know.

NEW BUSINESS

Open House on Feb 22, but there will also be preservation going on, who can handle any visitors that might come in?

Donna will be here and can handle visitors.

March 22: Irish wake, have three actors to talk about traditions and will have a (fake) body.

Financial fundraising policy is being reviewed and will be sent to board by next meeting. Books will also be reviewed by finance committee

CPR Class: \$25, outside company will come in and teach CPR class. We might get some visitors to the cemetery by coming to the CPR class. Board is interested, and Patty will get a date and let everyone know.

Memorial Day: will be here before we know it. We can continue doing what we did last year. (Open house) Steve Schumaker will attend.

Clarence Shaw: grave marker near Shaw Butte, private property where the marker was found. He's likely buried under it. He was buried around 1904, and now there is development around where he is buried and the owners want to move eventually and some folks are concerned over what new owners may do to the burial. Ed, Vivia, and Patty have discussed this previously and the consensus was that the marker should not be moved. Vivia gave examples of other places that have graves on private properties. Donna suggests the deed should have a restriction that the grave is not to be moved when they eventually sell the property. PCA generally agreed we do not feel we should move the marker. Will speak with homeowner when Ed is better.

House repairs: Patty and Cindy met with Joe Diaz. No new news. Other than workers sanding screens that do not need to be sanded, as those can be replaced. PCA needs to get a scope of work from the city.

Light rail: Confusion over where the light rail is going to go in front of the House. Will it be 15th Ave or 13th Ave.? Will try to set up meeting for March 19th.

Reminder for Newsletter: Due Feb. 21

Volunteer Hours Reminder - Please send your hours to Denise.

Reminder for March as Phoenix History Month, get in touch with Steve Schumaker for any collaborations. He sent a flyer.

Meeting Adjourned 10:46 a.m

Respectfully submitted by Jenn Merry