

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

Thursday, June 6, 2024

PCA Board Members present:

Smurthwaite House

Patty Gault, President
Cindy Lee, Vice President
Ed Dobbins, Historian
Debe Banning
Kim Kasper
Mark Lamm
Donna Carr
Jenn Merry
Vicki Galli
Val Wilson
Sterling Foster

On the Phone:

Jenn Merry

PCA Advisory Board Members present:

Pamela Stewart

PCA Advisory Board Members absent:

Marshall Shore
Ryan Vander Ark
Margy Parisella
Judy Smith

PCA Members present:

Smurthwaite House

Denise Foster
Tom Yount
Lezlee Alexander
Brittney Hinegardener

Discussion/Action

Call to order: President Patty Gault called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. All present happily welcomed Sterling and Denise Foster back to cemetery.

Approval of May 2, 2024 Minutes: Minutes accepted as presented to the Board.

Treasurers Report: Val Wilson gave the treasurer's report:

as of May 1st	-	Beginning Balance - \$35,466.18
as of May 31st	-	Ending Balance - \$30,480.94

OLD BUSINESS

Memorial Day:

All went well. There were approximately 60 attendees. Some toured the house and others toured the cemetery on their own. Snacks and drinks were served. Although it was hot all appeared to enjoy the visit. Had a visit from Bonnie Still a past PCA volunteer and presently a part time city of Phoenix employee. She offered her assistance with any future holiday decorating projects. PCA received 2 generous donations from the AZ Mason's Lodge #2 and the Scottsdale Civil War Roundtable organization.

Brooch/Mother's Day Fundraiser Event:

17 guests were shown how to create jeweled treasures. Light refreshments were served. A raffle was held and guests won small jewelry boxes to store their creation. \$360.00 was made to help support the Grave Marker Preservation Project.

Upcoming work on Smurthwaite:

No updates. Patty will request another meeting with Joe Diaz. Kim expressed concerns about the scope of the planned "work". Kim has contacted the city of Phoenix Historic Preservation office and has asked them to review the plans and give approval before the work starts. She has also asked Helana Ruefer and Kevin Weight to come to the Smurthwaite house to evaluate the condition of the windows before the project is started. Kim will call the HP office after the meeting to try to confirm a date for their visit.

Light Rail-Valley Metro Update:

No updates. Kim attended a meeting regarding the Transit Oriented District (TOD) and the Transit Oriented Community (TOC) the city is currently evaluating for the area and she expressed some concerns about the current light rail route. It ends at 15th Avenue on Washington and Jefferson streets. There is no rail connection between the 2 intersections. Val has been asked to serve on the Art Committee to select the art installation for the area rail stop.

NEW BUSINESS

No questions on Committee Reports

Sterling has been in contact with Boy Scout representatives and would like to initiate some Eagle Scout projects at the cemetery.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- September 21 – Ice Cream Social
- September 28 – Dia De Los Muertos.

The wooden Smurthwaite House sign was stolen and a police report was made.

The next Safe Operating Advisory Committee meeting will be on June 20th. Patty will attend and let her know if there is an issue she should address.

Patty announced there will be a Family History Event in Prescott on September 28th. The PCA has been invited to attend and Patty may be available. Patty will send the invitation and specifics to all via email.

Cindy Lee plans to apply for a Tier 1, \$2000.00 grant available from the Arizona Historical Society for Grave Marker Preservation.

Ed announced that he has a new video available on YouTube on the subject of Dyer maps.

On May 20, 2024 Cindy Lee was awarded an “Individual Award of Excellence” from the Museum Association of Arizona (MAA). Congratulations Cindy!

Volunteer Hours Reminder

Please send your hours to Denise.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:26

City of Phoenix Parks & Recs meeting will be on 6/13/2024, 9:30 AM

Respectfully submitted by Kim Kasper