

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

Thursday, November 7, 2024

PCA Board Members present:

Smurthwaite House

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

On Zoom

Val Wilson, Treasurer
Jenn Merry
Lezlee Alexander
Jarrod Riddle, Guest
Steve Schumacher, Guest
Todd Bailey, Guest

PCA Board Members absent:

Debe Branning

PCA Advisory Board Members present:

None

PCA Advisory Board Members absent:

Marshall Shore
Ryan Vander Ark
Judy Smith
Pamela Stewart
Margy Parisella

Smurthwaite House

Vivia Strang
Denise Foster
Tom Yount
Lorelei Redmond

Discussion/Action

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

Approval of September 5, 2024 Minutes: Amend Minutes to reflect Lezlee Alexander as present at the meeting. Minutes accepted as amended by the Board.

Treasurers Report: Report given by Val Wilson

as of October 1 st	-	Beginning Balance - \$30,993.01
as of October 31 st	-	Ending Balance - \$31,286.17

OLD BUSINESS

Election: Cindy Lee presented the Election Ballot for the 2025-2027 (2 year term) Board member positions. 13 Board of Director positions and 6 Advisory positions. The totals will be tabulated and then the Board will select the positions. Results will be announced later in the meeting.

Arizona Historical Society Grant:

Cindy Lee applied for a grant for Gravestone Preservation and received approximately \$1500. The funds will be available for supplies when Conservator Joe Ferrannini comes in February. PCA did send a thank you note to AHS and Cindy thanked Pam for her assistance with the application.

AHS AI Merito Award:

The award is for outstanding preservation and dedication to preserving history and the stories of the people in Arizona. The application was coordinated by Ann Ferrannini the wife of our conservator. Val, Ed and Patty received the plaque a couple of weeks ago and it is present on the table. Patty thanked all volunteers, present and past for all of the research over the years. Patty stated that the work that has been done over the years "is truly inspiring".

Smurthwaite House Repairs:

Patty said it has been a "somewhat painful process" working with the city. They have agreed to save and restore the windows, but unfortunately, they are going to paint the house "stucco white" and the trim "sage green". The city Historic Preservation office has approved the color. The reason given was "these colors will not fade like the dark color". Joe Diaz admitted it will probably not get painted again for 20-30 years. Kim voiced her opposition, but said she would stay out of the paint color argument because we won the windows. Vivia also voiced her opposition and stated that other historic buildings in the immediate area and from the same era (1890's) are painted the same redbrick color. Examples: Evans House, Carnegie Library. White paint colors were not used until the 1920's. Patty has provided the city with a copy of the PCA calendar and Patty has advised the City we will need to have access to the house on the scheduled event days. They say they will work with us.

Jacob Waltz Press Release:

Lezlee will post the LOST DUTCHMAN GRAVESITE DEDICATION on the PCA website. The event is scheduled for January 11, 2025. A report of the details was provided on a report date November 7, 2024. The committee will be having a meeting on November 21st to firm up the details. Anyone interested in helping should attend.

Membership Renewals:

Patty reminded any members that have not paid to do it. All Board members are paid. Lezlee's records show there are approximately 34 renewals with many more received today and not yet tabulated.

NEW BUSINESS

Committee Reports:

Cindy had questions about the Social Media Report Val provided. She asked if it was for the year or was it a monthly report. Val confirmed it was only for the month of October. All

expressed amazement over the amount of work done. Val said doing history stuff is a stress reducer for her. We are getting a lot of social media attention and increasing our “digital imprint”. Val has also put together a YouTube channel. Kudos to Val!

Kim commented on the Quarterly Report how amazing it is considering the obstacles we’ve had in the last quarter, the heat and the unknown repair schedule, we still contributed 1157 volunteer hours.

UPCOMING EVENTS

-November 16th – Holiday Event, Ornament Make and Take/Membership Boost Ornament

-Patty would like to start doing some Christmas decorating today or next week.

-Any newsletter submissions should be sent to Val.

-If any of the committees have Budget requests, submit them to Val now. She is going to be creating the Budget for the upcoming year and she will present to the Board next month.

-Sterling asked if we have plans for new memorial marker stones. Patty said research needs to be done. There will be a future discussion regarding the placement of stones we already have.

New Parks Foreman

Tim Breitenstein has been transferred to parks on the way west side. His last day was Friday, November 1st. The PCA bought him lunch on October 31st and gave him a “miss you” card and a gift card. We are very DISAPPOINTED and he was not happy. He has been replaced by Angie Perches. Mark met Angie and George Labario on November 5th which was Angie’s first visit to PMMP. Mark has invited Angie and Marcellino to the Parks and Rec meeting on November 14th. Kim expressed her concerns about the alarm procedures.

Election Results:

16 Ballots received

All votes were to Accept the Slate as Presented

The board discussed and appointed the following Executive positions:

President-Patty Gault

Vice President-Cindy Lee

Secretary-Jennifer Schaffer Merry

Treasurer-Val Wilson

Historian-Ed Dobbins

Volunteer Hours Reminder

Please send your hours to Denise.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

City of Phoenix Parks & Recs meeting will be on 10/10/2024, 9:30 AM

Respectfully submitted by Kim Kasper