

Evergreen Cemetery Committee Meeting Notes  
September 2, 2009 Meeting  
Public Works Department

Present: Nancy Davies

John Frazier

Margaret Hartnett

Mary Killary

Russ McConnell, Public Works

Absent: Snody Borowiec

Christopher Overlock

Luche Giacomino - Council liaison

Guest: Rose Matthews, Savannah College of Art and Design in Phoenix, Student of Historic Preservation

Call to the Public:

The meeting was called to order at 5:20 p.m.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Agenda Item IVA: Maintenance/Security of cemetery re Gates: Public Works Director Russ McConnell reported that the fencing in the rear of the property where animals were coming through is being reinstalled - but at a lower level without "spikes" so that animals who jump the fence won't get hurt. He also reported that as yet he has found no one to lock and unlock the cemetery gates - which would make the cemetery more secure from vandalism. The police department seems to have a problem helping with this - seems it is demeaning. Russ said he is working on it.

Russ also reported that the fire crew from the prison was cutting the cemetery this week and that the other DOC workers would get it raked. The committee thanked him for that.

Agenda Item IV B: Rose Matthews. Rose came down just for the meeting and to take more pictures in the cemetery tomorrow before going back to Phoenix. She said that she would like to volunteer to do a conceptual design of the cemetery - particularly regarding the expansion in the new area. Rose's concern is that the City take the integrity of the historic section of the cemetery into consideration in any additions or changes the City might make in the cemetery. One idea she came up with would be the installation of an irrigation system. Especially if there would be planting in the new sections, this would probably be needed. She has a very good relationship with her irrigation supplier in Phoenix, that is a nationwide company, and she thinks she may be able to get some or all of the parts for an irrigation system donated. At least she will try! Rose said that she would keep in touch.

The committee was overwhelmed by her willingness to help and thanked her.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Agenda Item VA: Burial Policy (New Fee Schedule); Certificate of Burial:

Russ assured the committee that the new fee schedule was being implemented. The fee schedule is distributed through the Finance Department and not Public Works. The old fee schedule has been removed from the front desk of Public Works.

There was a discussion on the design of the Certificate of Burial. John Frazier will look it over and get back with Russ. The points the committee wanted considered were:

1. A border be added around the edges of the certificate
2. Turn the certificate lengthwise - like most certificates appear.
3. Have foil logos made to add to each certificate when issued.
4. Have a template of the certificate on the computer in the Finance Department so that each certificate can be filled in with the proper information as needed and then printed out. This would avoid having "blank copies" around. Having them filled out on the computer - instead of having them handwritten - makes for a better product.

Agenda Item VB: Day of the Dead:

Nancy Davies informed the committee that Lisa Holland, principal of Lowell School wants to do a Day of the Dead ceremony this November. Davies asked the committee whether they would be willing to help. The committee was enthusiastic and said that, if needed, they would be willing to have a work session in October - if Lisa and her group would be willing to present her plan. Lisa has already been in touch with Public Works.

Agenda Item VC: Future Agenda Items

Nancy Davies reminded the committee of the original charge given the committee in Resolution R-85-315A, dated November 5, 1985. She suggested that the committee consider whether they would like to see the charge of the committee changed. It was decided to determine this at future meetings.

Agenda Item VI: Adjournment

Next meeting will be November 4, 2009 - with a work session to be called in October if needed. Notice of work session will be given.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Nancy Davies  
Chairperson