



MARTINEZ CEMETERY COMMISSION

MINUTES

September 11, 2014

APPROVED April 15, 2015

I. Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 pm

Present: Chairman Strickland, Commissioners Carpenter, Duncan, Wilson and Zagotta

II. Approval of Minutes, April 30, 2014

Commissioner Wilson noted the first sentence under “May 10, 2014 Cemetery Clean-up” was in the wrong tense. It should read, “Clampers will clean up the Alhambra Cemetery.”

Commissioner Wilson made the motion to approve the minutes of April 11 with the change. Commissioner Zagotta seconded. All five commissioners voted aye.

III. Public Comment

No one from the public was present.

IV. Old Business

A. Cemetery Fund Balances Including Income from Haussman and Tavan Trusts Since April 2014

Supervisor Lorick reported that there is \$2850 in the Phyllis Wainwright Memorial Fund and \$10,035.34 in unrestricted funds. The cemetery fund grand total is \$12,885.34. The Haussman Trust contributed \$117.51 and the Tavan Trust contributed \$500 to the cemetery account.

B. Front Gate Project Update – Painting and Automatic Front Lock

The front gate was sanded the weekend of September 6 & 7. Painting was completed Tuesday, September 9. An automatic lock has been ordered and will be installed upon arrival. The lock will allow access to the Cemetery between 8 am and 5 pm or any hours the Commission may choose.

C. St. Catherine’s Cemetery Update – Commissioner Pete Carpenter

Commissioner Carpenter reported that St. Catherine’s recently took out a block wall. They are creating a walkway and will be installing handrails. The church is spending \$4200 on the upgrades. He also reported that 250 goats were brought into the Cemetery in late April and stayed for six days and did a good job of clearing the weeds.

V. New Business

A. October 11, 2014 Cemetery Clean-up With E Clampus Vitus– Commissioner Carter Wilson

Commissioner Wilson reported that the Clampers will be cleaning the Cemetery, Saturday, October 12. He asked the Commission if there is something specific they wanted cleaned or removed. Commissioner pointed out some dead branches and talked about light raking. They are concerned that removing all the leaves from the graves leaves them vulnerable to erosion.

B. Brown Family Story Board

The Brown Family Story Board is located next to the Brown Mausoleum. Commissioner Duncan reported that the Historical Society created the verbiage; PDQ designed and printed the board for free. Mary Lou and Les Johnson donated their time, money, skills to clean and repair the case.

Commissioner Duncan went on to say that the Historical Society wants to publicize and have an unveiling of the story board. Commissioner discussed various dates and decided to see if the evening of October 14 would be acceptable to the Historical Society.

C. Erosion Control Work by Cowan and Thompson Engineers

Supervisor Lorick reported that the engineering firm of Cowan and Thompson is donating their expertise and services to repair the eroded area from the top of the Laurel Pathway down towards Carquinez Scenic Road. This week they will pull out the old wattles, tamp in the dirt around the affected graves and put in new wattles.

D. Discussion of Possible Resources for Improved Maintenance

Chairman Strickland would like to see more clean-up days. Commissioner Duncan would like to bring back the Adopt a Grave program.

The Commission asked if more advertising could be done to promote the October 11 clean-up. Supervisor Lorick will send the information to Focus and listed it on the City website and Facebook. Commissioners directed Lorick to send out the Cemetery postcards three weeks prior to the clean-up.

C. October Cemetery Tours and Dias de Los Muertos (Day of the Dead)

Supervisor Lorick reported that there are four school cemetery tours scheduled for September. In October 9 there will be a moonlight tour. October 10, the group from the Clampers will have a private tour and October 31 is the annual Cemetery Tour. Saturday, November 1, the Day of the Dead event will be held for children. Recreation staff will provide crafts and activities.

VI. Commissioner and Staff Comments

Commissioner Wilson asked if all the water spigots in the cemetery worked... Supervisor Lorick stated that some of them had been abandoned. A few years ago the Parks Department had installed new water lines.

VII. Adjournment

Commissioner Carpenter made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Zagotta seconded. The motion passed with all commissioners saying aye. The meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm