

Fairmount Cemetery Board of Directors Minutes
Regular Meeting, April 16, 2014

The Fairmount Cemetery Board of Directors met Wednesday, April 16, 2014 at the Fairmount Cemetery office. Members present were Eva Horton, Angela Williams, Beverly Stribling, Eva Choate, Chris Holt, Jackie Martin, Ann West, Jean Johnson, Mary Jane Steadman, Kay Rork, Susan Mertz and Katie Johnson. Oscar Mota, Carl White, the City Parks Director, and David Byrd with First Financial Trust Department were also present.

Eva Horton called the meeting to order at 9:30am. There was no public comment. Minutes of the March 2014 meeting were approved as written.

David Byrd gave a report on the trust fund's performance during the first quarter of 2014. The market value as of April 15th was \$1,452,994.00. The increase in the percentage of equities that can be invested has increased the value of the fund. For the 1st quarter of 2014, the return was \$27,436.42, which is a 1.91% return. Equities had a return of 3.9% during the quarter and fixed income returned 1.22%. The fund has held an average annual return of 5% a year for the last 5 years. The estimated annual income from the fund for this fiscal year is projected to be \$50,000.

Eva Horton read a resignation letter from Bitsy Stone. Regretfully, Ann West made the motion to approve her resignation and Jackie Martin seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Oscar Mota reviewed the financial reports for March 2014. Oscar stated that as of the end of March, the cemetery was \$28975.00 ahead of budget according to the city blue book page. During the month of March, the cemetery had 5 regular funerals and 6 cremains funerals. Oscar also sold 3 spaces and 5 containers during the month. During the month, 39 additional dead juniper trees were removed bringing the total to 169 dead trees removed so far. A janitorial service came to clean the cemetery office and did a nice job. However, due to the expense, the cemetery can only afford to have the office cleaned on an as needed basis. Finally, Oscar relayed to the board that First Baptist Church and First United Methodist Church would be holding an Easter sunrise service in the cemetery.

Eva Horton brought a letter to the board from Pat Baker concerning watering usage in the cemetery. The board had decided last month to disallow any public water use from the cemetery water system but had not informed the public of this decision. This watering decision was made so as to follow the city ordinances on outside watering due to drought restrictions. A motion was made by Beverly Stribling and seconded by Jean Johnson to allow Oscar to put up a sign at the gazebo stating the cemetery's policy on watering. The motion passed. Mary Jane Steadman made a motion to give Oscar approval to purchase locks for the spigots, should he deem necessary, to curb public use of cemetery water. Kay Rork seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Carl White informed the board that the architects from Smith, Hill, Park and Cooper had made the requested changes to the columbaria plan, but could not release them because the city had not executed a contract with the firm. As soon as a contract was brought forth and signed, the new plans would be released.

Beverly Stribling, Ann West and Eva Horton gave a presentation on possible niche prices for the new columbaria. The tentatively approved prices are \$1200 for a single niche and \$1800 for a double niche with additional fees for opening/closing and for the engraved plaque. These prices are right in line with Lawnhaven's pricing for niches.

Ann West reported for Friends of Fairmount. The Rise and Shine Fun Run has been scheduled for April 19th, 2014 from 8:00am to 10:00am. Gandy Ink has donated 100 T-shirts for participants in the run.

Susan Mertz reported that the annual Stones and Bones project would be May 14th in the cemetery. Approximately 75 5th graders from Ft. Concho Elementary would be attending. Susan informed the board that Friends of Fairmount would like to hang a banner on the front gates of the cemetery to welcome the 5th graders. Should a funeral be occurring during this event, the banner would be hung inside the cemetery in a discreet location. The board gave its approval for the banner.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:35 am.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Angela D. Williams', written in a cursive style.

Angela D. Williams, Secretary