

Fairmount Cemetery Board of Directors Minutes
Regular Meeting, May 21, 2014

The Fairmount Cemetery Board of Directors met Wednesday, May 21, 2014 at the McNease Convention Center. Members present were Eva Horton, Angela Williams, Beverly Stribling, Eva Choate, Chris Holt, Jackie Martin, Ann West, Mary Jane Steadman, Kay Rork, Susan Mertz and Katie Johnson. Oscar Mota, Carl White, the City Parks Director, Michelle Gaitan with the Standard Times, and David Knapp (city architect) were also present. Some members of the Friends of Fairmount Board were also in attendance to listen to the columbaria design presentation.

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

David Knapp presented the columbaria design concepts from Park, Hill, Smith and Cooper. Phase 1 would consist of 2 columbaria sections. Option 2A would have a stone top and brick bottom; option 2B would have a brick top and stone bottom. The consensus of the board was to go with option 2B. If the columbaria contained all 8"x8" niches, the total count would be 480 niches. If the columbaria held all 12"x12" niches, the columbaria could house 224 niches. Beverly Stribling made a motion to appoint a committee to finalize the design aspects as to size of columns, size of niches and overall fine-tuning of the columbaria design. Jackie Martin seconded the motion. A committee consisting of Katie Johnson, Donna Crisp, Mary Jane Steadman, and Beverly Stribling was appointed.

Oscar Mota reviewed the financial reports for April 2014. Oscar stated that as of the end of April, the cemetery was \$24,200.00 ahead of budget according to the city blue book page. During the month of April, the cemetery had 8 regular funerals and 1 cremains funeral. Oscar also sold 6 containers during the month. During the month, 5 additional dead juniper trees were removed bringing the total to 174 dead trees removed so far. Oscar also installed locks on 29 of the 34 water spigots throughout the cemetery. Signs also have been posted advising the public that watering with cemetery water is prohibited. Oscar also reported that funerals have been down in the month of May but Accounts Receivables coming from funeral homes should help make up the difference.

Oscar stated that he is in the process of determining the budget for 2014-2015. He has estimated revenue of \$367432.00 as compared to \$344,282.00 for the current year. Built into the budget is an increase in funerals, lot sales and container sales. He is also asking for an increase in the water budget and building and grounds maintenance budget. He is also requesting that the line item for container and marker sales be split into 2 separate line items as opposed to being combined as in the past.

Beverly Stribling reported for Friends of Fairmount. The Stones and Bones project was a huge success with 70 children attending from Ft. Concho elementary. The children participated in a scavenger hunt, tombstone rubbings, a cemetery tour and had cookies. They have already requested to come back next year. The Fun Run had 120 participants and raised \$750. Tip Hargrove and Steve Holt have combined efforts to refurbish Jack Mathis' tombstone. He is a Medal of Honor winner and Steve Holt's uncle.

Lastly, Eva Horton thanked Donna Crisp and Beverly Stribling for getting design drawings, posters, and displays framed and hung in the cemetery office.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Angela D. Williams, Secretary