

Fairmount Cemetery Board of Directors Minutes
Regular Meeting, September 17, 2014

The Fairmount Cemetery Board of Directors met Wednesday, September 17, 2014 at the Fairmount Cemetery office. Members present were Eva Horton, Angela Williams, Eva Choate, Jackie Martin, Ann West, Mary Jane Steadman, Susan Mertz, Donna Crisp, Chris Holt, Estelle Eckert, and Katie Johnson. Oscar Mota and David Byrd with First Financial were also present.

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

David Byrd with First Financial gave a report on the performance of the Trust Fund. The portfolio value at the end of August was \$1,498,733.20. The total fund value increased 1.19%, or \$17,557.85 for the quarter ending 8/31/2014. For the year ending 8/31/2014, the fund grew 8.56%.

Oscar Mota reviewed the financial reports for July and August 2014. Oscar stated that as of the end of August, the cemetery was \$72,339 ahead of budget according to the city blue book page. This is mainly due to the increase to our water budget. During the month of July, the cemetery had 8 regular funerals and 2 cremains funerals. Oscar also sold 8 containers and 2 spaces during the month. During the month, 12 additional dead juniper trees were removed bringing the total to 193 dead trees removed so far. During the month of August, the cemetery had 9 regular funerals and 0 cremains funerals. Oscar sold 9 containers and 6 spaces during the month. Additionally, 52 sprinkler heads were replaced and repairs were made to the sprinkler system throughout the cemetery. The yearly totals were in line with budgeted 2014 figures - 90 regular funerals and 26 cremains funerals were performed, 42 spaces and 79 containers were sold.

Oscar brought up an issue with an excess of decoration on some gravesites. It becomes a problem with maintenance of the cemetery when mowers and weed eaters cannot work around the excess décor. After reviewing the policy on Flower and Article placement, it was determined that our policy is not clearly written. Katie Johnson and Estelle Eckert agreed to research the matter.

Donna Crisp reported on the progress for the revision of the columbaria design. David Knapp was present outside the cemetery office with examples of materials to use for the columbaria. The board consensus was to go with green granite for the face of the niches. Construction could begin in January 2015. Donna also collected money for a plaque honoring Bitsy Stone's countless years of service to the board.

Ann West reported for Friends of Fairmount. Ann stated that Friends of Fairmount would like to sell pavers around the columbaria to raise funds for future capital projects related to the columbaria. Katie Johnson made the motion to allow Friends of Fairmount to sell pavers to raise funds for future capital projects relating to the Columbaria. Jackie seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Ann reported that the Veterans Day program would be held November 11th in the cemetery. Also, Duncan Knox is returning to conduct further research on important people buried in the cemetery. He received the Catherine Tweedy Waring Scholarship at ASU. Ann also reported that the San Angelo Chamber of Commerce is highlighting the Friends of Fairmount flyer on their website during the month of October. Lastly, the next meeting will be Nov. 5th at noon at West Texas Collection.

Future Agenda items for next month's meeting will be finalizing prices for niches at the columbaria, rewriting the flower and article policy and beginning discussion on the urgent need for a renovated bathroom at the cemetery.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:10am.

Respectfully submitted,



Angela D. Williams, Secretary