

Missoula Cemetery Board Meeting
Thursday, June 1, 2017
12:00pm
Missoula City Cemetery Office

Minutes

Present: Mary Lou Cordis, Paul Filicetti, Ron Regan, Mary Ellen Stubb, Lani Moore, Kim Seeberger, Rachel Parkin (Attorney for Milodragovich, Dale, & Steinbrenner), Rick Evans (Garden City Funeral Home), Bob & Michelle Jordan (Garden City Monument Services)

Absent: Pat McHugh

Approval of board minutes: May 2017 unanimously approved as submitted.

Public comment: Ms. Parkin stated she and her clients were here to reiterate their position. What the cemetery board is doing is engaging in a monument business and they are opposed to such a business. They want the board to know they are still here and willing to try and work through options to reach resolutions that work for everybody. Mr. Evans said they were trying to go through a council member to get before council as a whole. They will go through the political and legal means to fight for their cause.

Financials: Revenues and expenditures reviewed.

New or Continuing Items.

FY18 BUDGET: The budget is before City Council. The budget committee will contact Mr. Regan if they have questions, otherwise, the new budget cycle begins the first of July.

ORDINANCE / FEES: Referred to the June 7th meeting of the Parks and Conservation Committee. The meeting time is unknown at this time, but should be set on the Friday before the meeting. The board reviewed a tentative schedule of the review process, however, all dates and times are subject to change.

NEW COLUMBARIUM PLAZA: June 14th is the expected delivery date for the new walls. The pads are poured and the cemetery is ready for the wall deliveries.

Informational Items.

MEMORIAL HOLIDAY: Members of the Elks lodge helped with flags throughout the weekend. They have also offered to repurchase the ragged flags. Traffic was steady throughout the weekend. Feedback was all positive. The cemetery also gave out a lot of maps to people and sold a grave over the weekend.

FLOWER CARE: The cemetery sold 99 beds (down 15 from last year) and 56 boxes (down 2 from last year), however two beds changed to boxes this year. Overall, cemetery sales were good and right about average.

STORIE AND STONES: The tour kicks off today with RSVP requests sent to storytellers and vendors. The tour is set for Sunday, September 17, 2017. General information on the required preparation done by cemetery staff before and during the tour was discussed.

STONE CLEANING (Non-agenda item): The cemetery received a request from an individual who wanted to clean the Civil War monuments and obtain VA markers for others. Discussion followed. Cemetery ordinance is clear that we do not own the stones or take responsibility for them. Mr. Regan and Mr. Filicetti both voiced concern that giving permission means the cemetery accepts liability if something goes wrong or someone gets hurt during the cleaning process. The board agreed that it would be nice if this cleaning happen but they requested the cemetery receive advisement from the city attorney as to whether this poses a liability for the cemetery.

Adjournment at 12:29pm. Next meeting will be July 6, 2017.