

Missoula Cemetery Board Meeting
Thursday, November 7, 2019
12:00pm
Missoula City Cemetery Office

Minutes

1. Call to Order

Board members present: Mary Lou Cordis, Neil Carson, Pat Filicetti, Kim Seeberger

Board members absent: Pat McHugh

Staff: Ron Regan, Mary Ellen Stubb

Public: Susie Hilmes (Sunset Memorial Gardens)

2. Roll Call

3. Approval of Minutes. Unanimously approved after small correction.

4. Public Comment on items not listed on the agenda. None.

5. Staff Report

Strategic Plan. The selection committee narrowed candidates to three and then conducted Skype interviews with the finalists. The committee unanimously selected L.F. Sloane, a father/son team out of New York, who specialize in cemeteries. Mr. Regan has taken the recommendation through committee and City Council. The contract is now going through the channels for signature. This project will likely kick off in the next month or two.

Staff. Brett Gilman, who comes with over 20 years of golf course supervision experience, is now Foreman. Another individual with turf experience filled the vacant seasonal position. Mr. Regan said these changes bring good experience and new ideas to the cemetery. There is currently a vacant admin position in process and a 10-month seasonal maintenance position. Mr. Regan would like to look at an apprentice program for the maintenance position because so many good people get missed in the way the hiring works now so he is unsure when this position will be filled.

6. Financials. Reviewed with discussion.

7. New Business. None.

8. Continuing Business

Sign Project. This project is completed. The final report is in the works to send to Montana History Foundation. Mr. Filicetti asked if we would be applying for more grants this year. Mrs. Stubb explained that we are not eligible to apply for a new grant until our current grant is officially closed. The timing for grant submittals may not work for this year, but we would definitely like to consider applying next year.

Stories and Stones. Mrs. Stubb reported there were 15 storytellers, 350 attendees, and \$896 in donations this year. Mr. Filicetti asked if there was any feedback from the public. Mrs. Stubb had heard positive feedback regarding the new signage and Mr. Carson had conducted a survey. He said the general response on the survey was that folks love it and want it to continue. The biggest comment was that we are not reaching people ahead of time as best as we can. There was much discussion on ideas such as events calendars, school participation, alerting special groups such as aging services and retirement homes, and increasing special media stories in advance of the tour. Mrs. Stubb said that all of these suggestions were done in the past with various degrees of success, but that many of the past publicity opportunities are no longer available. Mr. Regan added that over 1,000 people are on the email list for notification of the tour.

9. Informational Items. None.

10. Communication. Board members signed a Thank-you card for a generous donor.

11. Adjournment at 12:35pm. Board members unanimously agreed to meet at the regularly scheduled meeting time on December 5 and then cancel the January 2 meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Ellen Stubb, Admin Asst. III