



# County of El Dorado Cemetery Advisory Committee

## MINUTES

Wednesday, August 24, 2016

Committee Members:

Cemetery Director, Steven M. Pedretti, Director, Community Development Agency	Supervisor Brian Veerkamp, BOS Representative
Bonnie Wurm, Cemetery Director Alternate	Kathy Witherow, BOS Alternate
County Coroner's Office Sgt. Troy Morton	Jeffrey A. Schmidt, Fraternal Organization Representative
Doug Walker, Archeological Organization Representative	Janette Rogers-Booth, District I Representative
Ramona Tripp-Verbeck, Native American Representative	Michael Roberts, District III Representative
Arthur Cort, District II Representative	Joan Wicklund, District V Representative
Frank Clark, District IV Representative	

- 1) The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM by Chairman Jeff Schmidt. Committee members present: Ramona Tripp-Verbeck, Sgt. Troy Morton, Frank Clark, Joan Wicklund, Mike Roberts, Art Cort, Jeff Schmidt, and Kathy Witherow. Guests: Anne Novotny, Mary Ann Schroth, Suzi Mickus, Hank Rafter, and Bernie Pagenkopf. Staff: Julianne Melchor and Mary Cory. The Agenda was adopted.
- 2) Approval of the Minutes – Minutes of June 22 meeting were approved as written.
- 3) Introductions, Announcements – Introductions were made. Anne Novotny gave a report on the Board of Supervisors Workshop regarding the Cultural Resource Ordinance as called for in the County General Plan. The Board gave direction to move forward with writing the ordinance; update the 1999 Guidelines; and further investigate the duties of a Cultural Resource Commission and alternatives to having a Commission. The County has hired registered archaeologist Tiffany Schmid. Anne asked that comments be submitted to her, to Bonnie or to Mary. The Chairman asked that this discussion be agendaized for the next meeting.
- 4) Discussion and Action Items:
  - a) Report from oversight committee for Non-County maintained cemeteries – “Criteria for Selecting Cemeteries At Risk” prepared by Bonnie after the meeting with the committee was distributed. It was noted that “Volcanoville” should be changed to #1 and is owned by the Native Daughters of the Golden West. Mary reported on the research done on the Camino Cemetery by Museum Volunteer Ellen Osborn. Jeff suggested the subcommittee tackle the items that need to be done, such as meet with the owner of record, the church, etc. Bonnie will set up a meeting for the committee. Mike asked for the backing from the CAC on decisions, and Jeff noted that the CAC can make recommendations; it cannot act on its own.
- 5) Cemetery Operations Staff report
  - a) Julianne handed out the revised Fees List. They were approved by the Board of Supervisors on May 3, 2016.
- 6) Representative Reports:
  - a) Janette Rogers-Booth, District I - none
  - b) Art Cort, District II – Latrobe Cemetery isn't getting cleaned up and asked who is doing Bryant Cemetery as they might also care for Latrobe Cemetery. He asked a Boy Scout Troop, but they have not responded. There was a discussion about guidelines for private groups taking care of public cemeteries, and Jeff noted that the Native Sons of the Golden West have guidelines which he will share.
  - c) Mike Roberts, District III – Missouri Flat Cemetery recently burned, and Mike took photos. A tree fell on one headstone, and Bonnie has been advised to stay out for several more days. At Placerville Union Cemetery, a stone was pushed over last night. There was a discussion about the reliability of the gates being locked and unlocked.
  - d) Frank Clark, District IV – Cremains were buried with a military ceremony at Greenwood Cemetery.
  - e) Joan Wicklund, District V - none
  - f) Kathy Witherow, BOS Alternate – Kathy noted that the phone number listed at the El Dorado Cemetery wasn't answered and questioned who it was supposed to reach. She reported that merchants want to clean up the town of El Dorado, and had questions about the ownership of El

- Dorado Cemetery.
- g) Jeff Schmidt, Fraternal Organizations - none
  - h) Ramona Tripp-Verbeck, Native American Cemeteries – A tree was hauled off from Greenstone Cemetery.
  - i) Doug Walker, Archeological Representative - none
  - j) Sgt. Troy Morton, Coroner's Office – Placerville Police Department was asked to make additional patrols of Placerville Union Cemetery when school lets out.
- 7) Public Comment
- a) Mary Ann Schroth reported that she attempted to visit the Missouri Flat Cemetery on the day after the fire.
  - b) Suzi Mickus stated that she supports resolving the ownership issues on many cemeteries, especially the El Dorado Cemetery and the Camino Cemetery discussed today.
- 8) The meeting was adjourned at 4:11 PM. The next meeting will be September 28, 2016, and two agenda items were noted:
- a) Discussion about the Cultural Resource Ordinance and the 1999 Guideline revisions
  - b) Guidelines for private groups working in public cemeteries

Mary Cory, Museum Administrator

Committee Staff: Cemetery Administrator, Bonnie Wurm  
Museum Administrator, Mary Cory  
Office of County Counsel, Kay Ann Markham  
Administrative Services Officer, Operations Unit, Sherrie Busby