

MINUTES  
August 26, 2015

1. The regular meeting of the Cemetery Advisory Committee was called to order at 3:05 PM by Chairman Bonnie Wurm. Members present: Frank Clark, Doug Walker, Ramon Tripp-Verbeck, Sergeant Michael Vissiere, Kathy Witherow, Jeffrey Schmidt, Michael Roberts, Art Cort and Bonnie Wurm. Guests: Mary Ann Schroth, Susan Mickus, Ray LeVitt, Bernie Pagenkopf, and Hank Rafter. Staff: Elizabeth Zangari and Mary Cory.
2. Adoption of the Agenda – Approved as written
3. Approval of the June 24, 2015 Minutes – Approved with change to 5c to read “Title may be established.”
4. Introductions, announcements – none
5. Reports
  - a. Cemetery Operations Staff
    - i. Fairplay Cemetery – Supervisor Fretzen is discussing the possibility of a donation of land to be added to the cemetery.
    - ii. Gold Hill Cemetery – Plans to plant a vineyard near this cemetery will include a 30 foot buffer zone with an additional 100 feet which will not be disturbed deeply. No Ground Penetrating Radar will be required due to the agreed upon buffer zone.
  - b. District 1 – Mike Roberts reported on behalf of Janette Rogers-Booth that the trespassers in the house at the Clarksville Cemetery have left and thanked the Sheriff's Dept. for their help. A descendant is now keeping the gate locked.
  - c. District II – Art Cort had no report
  - d. District III – Mike Roberts reported that he has been learning about the cemeteries in District III with the help of Susan Mickus, Mary Ann Schroth, Doug Walker and Bonnie Wurm. He volunteered to replace the kiosk at the Placerville Union Cemetery.
  - e. District IV – Frank Clark had no report
  - f. District V – no report
  - g. BOS Alternative – Kathy Witherow reported George Forni would like to donate property adjoining the El Dorado Cemetery. Middletown Cemetery access – the City of Placerville installed a warning sign; the County will not install a warning sign and no mirror will be installed.
  - h. Fraternal Organizations – Jeff Schmidt reported that the NSGW Cemetery in Volcanoville was officially opened on May 2. He also reported that the Placerville Parlor is discussing adopting a cemetery.
  - i. Native American Cemeteries – Ramona Tripp-Verbeck reported that two pine trees came down in the Craig Cemetery; her son cleaned them up.
  - j. Archaeological Representative – Doug Walker reported that he has been researching newspapers for references to cemeteries and found two in 1876.
  - k. Coroner's Office – Sergeant Vissiere had no report
6. Public Comment – none
7. Discussion and Action Items:
  - a. Draft Ordinance and Management Plan changes – Bonnie reported that she received comments from Doug Walker and Art Cort.
  - b. Funding the cemeteries
    - i. Districts and Zone of Benefit Cemetery Operations (see handout) – Elizabeth Zangari summarized the difference between Cemetery Districts and Zones of Benefits. To establish either one, the boundaries need to be defined and then they are subject to voter or property owner approval. A District is independent of the county, has a

Board of Directors which is responsible for governance and finances; it requires LAFCO approval. A Zone of Benefit requires a public hearing and 2/3 voter approval for funding; it does not require LAFCO approval. Mr. LeVitt, a director of the Kelsey Cemetery District, reported that it had been formed in 1938, and they receive a small amount from property taxes which does not cover the cost of operating the cemetery. Elizabeth reported that Georgetown Cemetery is a Zone of Benefit. Bonnie distributed a handout explaining the differences

- ii. Grants – Bonnie asked for volunteers to research grants. She noted that establishing a cemetery with a Historical Landscape/Landmark status can make it eligible for grants. Mike Roberts offered to research this and Jeff Schmidt will ask an associate who has experience in this area to our next meeting.
8. The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 PM. The next meeting will be September 23, 2015. Agenda items are due by September 9<sup>th</sup>.

Mary Cory, Museum Administrator