



# County of El Dorado Cemetery Advisory Committee

## MINUTES

Wednesday February 19, 2014

### Committee Members:

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| Cemetery Director, Kimberly A. Kerr, Acting Director, Community Development Agency | Supervisor Brian Veerkamp, BOS Representative             |
| Bonnie Wurm, Cemetery Director Alternate   | Kathy Witherow, BOS Alternate                             |
| Sheriff John D'Agostini, County Coroner  | Jeffrey A. Schmidt, Fraternal Organization Representative |
| Doug Walker, Archeological Organization Representative                             | Janette Rogers-Booth, District I Representative           |
| Ramona Tripp-Verbeck, Native American Representative                               | Fred Belt, District III Representative                    |
| Harry McLaughlin, District II Representative                                       | Joan Wicklund, District V Representative                  |
| Frank Clark, District IV Representative  |   |

- 1) Regular meeting of the Cemetery Advisory Committee was called to order at 3:00. CAC Members Present: Doug Walker, Frank Clark, Jeff Schmidt, Janette Rogers-Booth, Joan Wicklund, Fred Belt, Harry McLaughlin, Ramona Tripp-Verbeck, Kathy Witherow, John D'Agostini. Guests: Mary Ann Schroth, Susan Mickus, Melanie McLaughlin. Staff: Mary Cory.
- 2) Adoption of the Agenda - Approved.
- 3) Approval of the Minutes – Meeting of January 22, 2014 – Approved as written.
- 4) Introductions, Announcements – new guest Melanie McLaughlin was introduced.
- 5) Action Items
  - a) Election of Officers – Nominations opened and the following nominations were made: Bonnie Wurm as Chair, Fred as First Chair, Janette as Second Chair and Mary Cory as Secretary. Nominations were closed and the slate of officers was approved.
- 6) Reports and discussion
  - a) Cemetery Administration staff report – Bonnie reported that there have been more break-ins at Middletown Cemetery. The fence was repaired but was breached again and theft is occurring at the Body Shop and the Mobile Home Park on the other side of the fence. The break-in has been reported to the City Police Dept. Other examples of break-ins have occurred in the area, and Sheriff D'Agostini asked for the name of the Police officer handling the case, which Bonnie will provide.
  - b) Formulation of list of active and inactive cemeteries for BOS – Bonnie distributed the list of County-operated Cemeteries categorized by “active” where plot sales and interments are allowed; “inactive” where interments and plot sales are no longer allowed; and cemeteries where her office oversees burials of pre-needs. There was a discussion about keeping access to the Uniontown Cemetery open; and getting Ground Penetrating Radar done at the Greenwood Cemetery and the Grizzly Flat Protestant Cemetery.
- 7) Committee Member Reports on various cemeteries visited by representatives
  - a) Janette Rogers-Booth, District I and II (eastern end of county) – Clarksville Region Historical Society has gotten a bid of \$12,000 to build the fence at the Clarksville Cemetery, and are working on raising the funds.
  - b) Joan Wicklund, District II and Harry McLaughlin-Grizzly Flat, Fairplay Cemeteries – Joan reported that she visited Oak Hill Cemetery which needs to be cleaned up. There are four sunken unmarked areas and she recommends having ground penetrating radar done at this cemetery. Bonnie noted that it is administered by a Cemetery Association. Harry reported on the fallen tree in the Grizzly Flat Cemetery and recommends stronger replacement fencing.
  - c) Fred Belt & Kathy Witherow, District III Cemeteries – Fred reported that improving access to the Middletown Cemetery should be a high priority, and both county and city need to be involved. Kathy will find out who to contact at the city and Fred offered to meet with that person as well.
  - d) Frank Clark- Cemeteries for part of District IV – Frank asked that the issue of selling plots at Greenwood be resolved.
  - e) Jeff Schmidt – Cemeteries for part of District IV and Fraternal organizations – Jeff reported that he is working with volunteers to find the 7-up Ranch and Pino Grande cemeteries; the Native Sons of the Golden West have begun work on the grand entryway to the new cemetery and are planning the dedication on Aug. 9, 2014.
  - f) Ramona Tripp-Verbeck, Native American Cemeteries – nothing to report
  - g) Doug Walker, Archeological Representative-burial sites and unknown graves – nothing to report

- 8) Public Comment
  - a) Mary Ann asked Bonnie for assistance in accessing the Missouri Flat Cemetery since it is fenced off while the construction work is occurring. Bonnie will get the contact name and phone number for her.
  - b) Susan reported visiting the Johnson Ranch (aka Blair Winkleman) Cemetery and said that it needs to be cleaned up. She also visited the Camino Cemetery and saw evidence of a recent full burial. Bonnie reported that Gene Larson is completing burial permits for that cemetery. GPR was done of the Camino cemetery and the map needs to be completed and recorded.
- 9) Next meeting March 26, 2014. Bonnie requested agenda items by March 12.
- 10) Adjournment

Committee Staff: Museum Administrator, Mary Cory; Community Development Agency, Elizabeth Zangari;  
Office of County Counsel, Kay Ann Markham