



County of El Dorado Cemetery Advisory Committee

MINUTES

Wednesday April 23, 2014

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
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. The regular meeting of the Cemetery Advisory Committee was called to order at 3:02 by Chairman Bonnie Wurm. Committee members present: Bonnie Wurm, Doug Walker, Joan Wicklund, Jeff Schmidt, Frank Clark, Janette Rogers-Booth, Harry McLaughlin, Fred Belt, and Ramona Tripp-Verbeck; Guests: Bernie Pagenkopf, Mary Ann Schroth, and Susan Mickus; Staff: Shawna Purvines, Kay Ann Markham and Mary Cory.
2. Adoption of the Agenda – approved
3. Approval of the minutes of March 26, 2014 – approved
4. Introductions, announcements, Cemetery Administration staff report
 - (a) Bonnie introduced Shawna Purvines with the County Community Development Department and Kay Ann Markham with County Counsel.
 - (b) Cemetery Administration staff report
 - i. Bonnie reported that the property including the Uniontown Cemetery is being sold and is currently in escrow. The new owners appear to be interested in preserving the cemetery.
 - ii. Bonnie reported that a large tree branch came down in the Middletown Cemetery. The tree has been evaluated and should be removed.
 - iii. Georgetown Renke Columbaria will be finished soon.
5. Action Items
 - (a) Review of Proposed General Plan Amendment and Zoning Ordinance draft and its impact on the Cemetery Ordinance draft – Bonnie reported that the Cemetery Advisory Committee was formed in 2002 with the responsibility to evaluate the Cemetery Ordinance and recommend changes. One of the recommended changes was to establish setbacks to provide a buffer and protection to the pioneer cemeteries. Because of many other changes that the committee identified, a new cemetery ordinance was drafted with the setbacks included in the draft of the new zoning ordinance. At the same time the Management and Operation Plans were rewritten. Shawna explained the zoning ordinance process and the direction that staff received from the BOS which was to remove all setbacks not required by State Law. The BOS was concerned about “one size fits all” setback language. Shawna pointed out the General Plan, adopted in 2004 includes protection of cemeteries, and calls for a cultural resource preservation ordinance and committee. As the General Plan is implemented,

the cultural resource preservation ordinance is scheduled to be drafted after the new zoning ordinance is adopted. Kay Ann has been reviewing the draft cemetery ordinance and will be able to devote time to it once the zoning ordinance is adopted.

6. Committee Member Reports on cemeteries visited

(a) Subcommittees

- i. Janette Rogers – Booth – District I and II – She reported that the Clarksville Region Historical Society completed the fence at the Clarksville Cemetery; there is a tree growing in a grave which will have to have concrete coping repaired after the tree is removed.
- ii. Harry McLaughlin – District II and V – He reported that the Fire Safe Council canceled their annual clean-up due to the fallen tree. The property owner of the cemetery needs to give permission to have the tree removed. He asked about getting BLM permission to access the Indian Diggings Cemetery.
- iii. Frank Clark – District IV – He reported that Growlersburg will clean the cemeteries on the Divide before Memorial Day.
- iv. Ramona Tripp-Verbeck – she reported that she and her family will be cleaning cemeteries in May and will report back to the Committee.
- v. Doug Walker – he reported that he has been researching the graves of two shepherders at Leek Springs

7. Public Comment

- (a) Missouri Flat Cemetery – Mary Ann reported that Jack Sweeney offered to take her to the Cemetery. There is the indication that there is a Native American feature there. It was noted that if so, Ramona should be included in a site visit. Doug reported that there is a change in the phasing of “The Crossings” which could possibly impact that Cemetery.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 PM. The next meeting is May 28, 2014 and agenda items are due by May 14, 2014.

Mary Cory, Museum Administrator