

MONUMENT RESTORATION COMMITTEE (MRC) MINUTES - SPRINGDALE CEMETERY
May 11, 2010

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Jack Gove called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Present: Allen Andrews, Nita Sunderland, Bob Meals, Carolyn Kraft, Jon Austin, George Kottemann, Jeanette Hillyer, and Jack Gove.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mr. Kottemann moved and Ms. Hillyer seconded to approve the Minutes of April 27, 2010; passed unanimously.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, STANDING COMMITTEES, AND AD HOC COMMITTEES:

Chairman's Report: Chair Gove handed out the Financial Report, which showed that expenses through May 10, 2010, were \$644.56. This included a reversal of December 31, 2009, Accounts Payable of \$503.38.

Committee on Bases and Foundations: Mr. Andrews, recently back in town, did not have anything new to report. He plans to have a recommended report for the committee to review and possibly vote on at the next meeting.

Report on Work Done Since Last Meeting: Ms. Sunderland reported that of the 26 foundations poured last December, all stones have been reset except two tablet stones and three or four larger stones. The foundations of six crooked granite stones have been probed and found to be 40 inches deep. Their bases are not solid and will be replaced with concrete caps, which will be pinned to the foundations. Another four or five granite stones have been identified that need to be jacked up; bricks and mortar will be used to level them since their foundations are ok. Ms. Sunderland mentioned that she was not going to be able to continue working eight hour days in the cemetery.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Mr. Meals said that out of the seven applications for Technician, it appeared to him only one might qualify. Ms. Sunderland agreed. Mr. Austin said no more applications had been received. Mr. Meals asked Mr. Austin to confirm that the MRC Laborers starting wage needs to stay below hourly wages paid to cemetery employees who have been employed for several years. Mr. Austin said that would be fair to both groups of employees. Mr. Kottemann asked if there were other ways or sources to secure laborers that could work and be evaluated that might develop into a Technician, perhaps by requiring more experience and starting them at a higher initial wage-\$9.50 to \$10.00 per hour. Mr. Andrews moved and Mr. Kottemann seconded that we ask Advantage Staffing if \$9.50 to \$10.00 per hour would enable us to secure a more experienced/skilled employee. Mr. Austin suggested that Advantage Staffing be given a copy of the Laborer Job Description. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Meals said he worked for several hours to assemble the necessary information to include with the Storage Shed Application for the Historic Preservation Commission and a Special Use Permit. The City has designated the cemetery as a Special Use Area that requires their approval before any change, addition or deletion can take place. Mr. Meals said that the Commission is scheduled to meet at 8:30 a.m., on Wednesday, May 26, in Room 400 of City Hall. We are third on the agenda. Mr. Meals asked for volunteers to accompany him. Mr. Meals further said the Zoning Commission is scheduled to meet on June 3 and if all goes well, the request for approval could be presented to the City Council mid-June.

Mr. Gove handed out copies of the Job Description of Laborer and Technician and thanked Ms. Hillyer for her help in getting them approved by the Springdale Cemetery Management Authority. Status of new temporary employee is covered under New Business.

NEW BUSINESS: Ms. Sunderland stated the need for a third person to help lift the third leg of a tripod which has a hoist attached. Ms. Sunderland said the hoist is moved 10 to 15 times per day. After considerable discussion Mr. Kottemann moved and Mr. Meals seconded that we approach Advantage Staffing for a third person who would be more experienced as we discussed earlier; passed unanimously. Mr. Austin said a cemetery grounds crewman could be available to help move the hoist. Mr. Gove said this would be particularly helpful if one the three restoration laborers is not working. The third restoration person would be doing other work when not helping to move the hoist, thereby increasing production.

GUEST INPUT: None.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS: The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 8, 2010, at 12:00 p.m. Mr. Gove asked Mr. Meals to be the Acting Chairman, since he plans to be out of town. Mr. Meals agreed.

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Kottemann moved and Ms. Hillyer seconded the motion to adjourn; passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Jack Gove, MRC Chair