

MINTURN CEMETERY DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
April 13, 2021

Members Present:

John Sheehan
Stephen Jones
Art Chavez

Members Absent:

n/a

Staff:

Sidney Harrington
Peggy Peters

I CALL TO ORDER

John called the regular meeting to order at 4:29 p.m. at the Riverview Cemetery Mausoleum, Minturn, CO.

II ROLL CALL

John, Art, Stephen, Peggy and Sidney were present.

III PUBLIC COMMENTS

n/a

IV APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

John motioned to approve the meeting minutes from the February 9, 2021 regular meeting, Art seconded, and all were in favor.

V DISCUSSION

A. Shed Building:

The shed building site plan was presented by Pedro and Sidney during the Town of Minturn Planning & Zoning meeting. The project was well received and we have the green light to move forward without going back through the P&Z process because the work is mostly administrative moving forward. Sidney has paid the required application fee and we will now work with Alpine Engineering, Land Title and Eagle Valley Surveying to provide the final plot for the Town. Pedro is the lead on this project and will keep on top of it.

B. Old Edwards Cemetery update:

After several weeks, Matt Mire has successfully reached the Eagle County BOCC attorney's office to discuss the legalities of the property. Attorney Holly Strablisky has promised to look into this further but has initially reported that the zoning is consistent with the use and that the original Miller Ranch PUD

specifically excluded the Old Edwards Cemetery property from the boundary. The property is zoned "Resource" and cemeteries are a permitted use in that zone district with a special use permit.

C. Landscaping Bids 2021:

Sidney has collected several landscaping bids for the cemetery. The challenge in reviewing these bid numbers will be comparing apples-to-apples. Discussion ensued regarding regular maintenance, bed maintenance and annual plantings. Peggy has been on staff at the cemetery here and takes care of the overall property along the cemetery property edges and several designated beds and areas throughout the property. Peggy's rate is a bargain at \$38 / hr. as we are reviewing bids and seeing labor rates at \$49 & \$50.

The bids that were discussed range in services, price and comprehension. Art asked about specific annuals and we reviewed the various bid numbers. John does not think it's a good idea to award all the work to a singular landscape contractor. Stephen feels that if we select a new landscape contractor, we are at risk of not knowing what we will get or how we will fall into their priority job queue and Peggy agreed.

Discussion ensued regarding the challenges with growing grass in the upper cemetery and the poor quality of the soil. The Gore Range Landscaping bid identifies a treatment for the upper cemetery lawn care to improve the soil. John suggested that we get a soil sample before putting any money towards the problem. Art wants to ensure we don't have companies applying various treatments. All agreed that getting the grass to grow in the upper cemetery is important so Sidney will move forward with getting a soil analysis.

In conclusion, it was decided to keep RMCL as the lawn mowing and seasonal clean up. Fitz Landscaping will continue to do the annuals in the beds including maintenance of those flowers and all irrigation zones. Mtn. Valley Ventures will continue weed control and Peggy will continue with weekly plant maintenance throughout the property. Peggy suggested that we obtain address information for landscape properties that are serviced by Gore Range and Green Valley.

D. www.minturncemetery.org

The new website design was presented to the board and staff. The site is still in development and any suggested changes can be made quite easily. The overall opinion of the new site is very positive. Stephen really likes the home page and the colors used throughout the site. Board members all agree it looks much better and minor photo changes will be made. Sidney will let everyone know when the site goes live. John commented that he thinks the gate, the flowers, the memorial wall and the Veterans' memorial images are important.

Sidney also shared a website that features a really cool spring flower feature that we could apply to this cemetery. Because we are located next to the Minturn

Mile, we could install a “Daffodil Mile” that represents rebirth and new beginnings. The idea is to plant a mile of flowers all in a singular line that runs throughout the cemetery. The board was very excited about this idea.

E. OTHER:

Board and staff discussed cemetery safety ideas including entry gate lights, security cameras and locking gates. Additional cameras in the B’Nail Vail section is something to seriously consider and board and staff were in agreement.

Stephen brought up “green burials” and designating a section here in Minturn and asked if we could place this item on a future agenda (pending land acquisition and future plans for cemetery use). Art pointed out a concern for putting the cart before the horse as we have also discussed a pet cemetery for future use and we don’t have any new land to plan for yet.

Sidney reported that the First Call of Colorado has had no further communication with the cemetery office and all communication is occurring between attorneys.

The last burial that Ray and staff performed resulted in some headstone troubleshooting. In the lower cemetery, there are areas whereby headstones encroach on casket burial space resulting in extra work and extra headache for staff and patrons. Recently during a winter casket burial, a headstone had to be removed and remained “down” causing several phone calls from patrons who were worried about vandalism. When staff performs winter casket burials, the winter conditions prohibit best practices for moving, relocating, re-setting headstones that must be moved in order put the casket in the ground.

Discussion ensued regarding various maintenance items and cemetery staff will address the following:

- Repaint the entry gate
- Asphalt over lay bid (we already have one from A Peak & we need another)
- Electrical run over to front gates
- Extra security cameras installed

VI. BILL PAYING

The following electronic funds transfers were made:

4/13/2021 EFT Centurylink 271.18

The following checks were signed:

4/13/2021	2839	A4S	1,500.00	
4/13/2021	2840	ABC Parts Inc.	21.61	
4/13/2021	2841	Defina Construction, Inc.	500.00	
4/13/2021	2842	First Bank	490.61	
4/13/2021	2843	Hoffmann, Parker, Wilson & Garberry	1,221.00	

4/13/2021	2844	Marchetti & Weaver	260.00
4/13/2021	2845	Peggy Peters	560.00
4/13/2021	2846	Sforzo Enterprises, Inc.	2,250.00
4/13/2021	2847	Sidney Harrington	3,333.00
4/13/2021	2848	Vail Honeywagon	51.50
4/13/2021	2849	Xcel Energy	950.24
4/13/2021	2850	Zehren & Associates	447.42

VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

shed building remodel, Two Elk sub-area masterplan-TOM, GPR survey, bids for landscaping, Old Edwards Cemetery, green burials, water feature, benches

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

At 6:21 p.m. John motioned to adjourn the regular board meeting, Art seconded and all were in favor.

The next regular board meeting date and time is TO BE DETERMINED.

Respectfully Submitted:
Sidney Harrington
Administrator

ATTEST:

Stephen Jones
Minturn Cemetery District
Secretary/Treasurer