

MINTURN CEMETERY DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
May 9, 2023

Members Present:

John Sheehan
Art Chavez
Stephen Jones

Members Absent:

n/a

Staff:

Sidney Harrington
Ray Sforzo

I. CALL TO ORDER

John called the regular meeting to order at 4:03 p.m. at the Riverview Cemetery Mausoleum, Minturn, CO.

II. ROLL CALL

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

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

n/a

IV. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

John motioned to approve the meeting minutes from the April 11, 2023 regular meeting, Stephen seconded, and all were in favor.

V. DISCUSSION

A. Shed Building Site Plan Revisions:

Pedro, Jesse and Josh from Zehren & Associates attended the meeting to present drawings and discuss the revised shed building site plan. Board and staff reviewed Allied Steel drawings, designs and price estimates.

There is a \$120,000 limitation for public RFPs and decisions about project timing, execution and delivery were discussed. Perhaps site work, foundation, concrete and retaining wall can be completed this summer and fall with a building delivery next spring and / or summer. Pedro discussed next steps for civil engineering

engagement (with Alpine Engineering) and Town of Minturn design review submittal process. He will contact Madison and Scot to discuss the application fee status and how to proceed.

B. 2022 DRAFT AUDIT PRESENTATION – Ken Marchetti

Ken attended the meeting to present and discuss the 2022 draft audit financial report. The financial audit for 2022 was prepared by McMahon and Associates and Ken's review of the audit indicates a favorable financial position for the Minturn Cemetery District with an estimated \$398,000 revenue increase based on 2024 predicted property tax revenue income for the district.

Board members received the draft audit in the meeting packet prior to this meeting and all had a chance to review the audit document and the letter to the board from the auditors prior to this meeting. There were no questions for Ken at this time. Ken went on to report that the board of directors is authorized to reduce the tax mill levy temporarily should they choose to do so for any reason. All agreed that there is no reason at this time to reduce the mil levy.

C. Administrator Report:

The Minturn Cemetery District has an upcoming Board of Directors vacancy for the district. John Sheehan's board position expires on July 28, 2023. Sidney will place a public notice in the Vail Daily along with a display ad per CO statute for special districts, the ad and notice will run for one week.

Sidney reported some interesting cemetery fence history from the website www.cemeteryinsightsandbeyond.com

Fences around cemeteries, especially wrought iron fences, served both practical and otherworldly purposes. In terms of practicality, wrought iron fences were placed around a cemetery to prevent wild animals from entering the grounds and digging up recently buried human remains. Our Colonial ancestors wanted to be assured that the remains of their loved ones would be well intact for their resurrection on Judgment Day, so they erected sturdy and gated wrought iron fences with spear tipped bars. Wrought iron fences were also placed around cemeteries to protect the living from the spirits of the dead. People believed that the ghosts of their dead loved ones could follow them from the cemetery if preventative measures were not made. Iron was believed to ward off both benign and evil spirits. Just as it was believed that spirits could not cross water, so it was believed that they could not move through or past iron. If you have ever seen an iron fence that has the upper portion of its bars pointed in towards the cemetery — rather than away from the grounds — you can be assured it was constructed that way to ward off spirits.

The Town of Minturn has an historical landmark nomination application for properties in Minturn that are more than seventy-five years old. Sidney believes the cemetery property is a strong candidate for the Town's historic register and

qualifies as a worthy and notable piece of McInturn culture and heritage. All agreed and Sidney will submit the nomination to the Town.

D. Property Report:

Ray reported a successful but very wet casket burial service last month that was attended by nearly 100 people.

Secondly, there has been a large headstone collapse in the cemetery and it is bigger in size than our current R&Rs allow for. Staff will contact the owner to replace the stone.

Cemetery gates have been closed since February and will remain closed due to wildlife activity.

Perimeter fence alteration discussion continued from the last three public meetings. John motioned to mitigate fence spikes on designated fence sections, Stephen seconded and all were in favor. A "channel iron" piece will be placed on specific sections of the perimeter fence whereby wildlife entanglements have been documented by the CO Dept. of Wildlife. This includes the SW lower corner of the property and the NE upper section near the mausoleum. Three twenty-foot sections per area will be altered so that spikes are covered. Work on the fence will commence as soon as possible per estimates on file. Once these "hot spot" sections have been "fixed" board and staff will assess the need for further fence alterations.

VI. BILL PAYING

The following electronic funds transfers were made:

n/a

The Following check payments were made:

5/9/2023	3232	Bishop Webworks	250.00
5/9/2023	3233	Firkins garage Doors Inc,	445.35
5/9/2023	3234	Firstbank	311.13
5/9/2023	3235	Hoffmann, Parker, Wilson & Carberry	111.00
5/9/2023	3236	The Home Depot	212.35
5/9/2023	3237	Marchetti & Weaver, LLC	424.00
5/9/2023	3238	Mike Layman Locksmith	135.00
5/9/2023	3239	Mountain West Insurance	5,411.00
5/9/2023	3240	MW Window Cleaning	330.00
5/9/2023	3241	Peggy Peters	462.00
5/9/2023	3242	RD Trucking LLC	50.00
5/9/2023	3243	Sforzo Enterprises, Inc.	4,415.00
5/9/2023	3244	Sidney Harrington	4,050.00

5/9/2023	3245	Vail Honeywagon	55.00
5/9/2023	3246	Vail Valley Landscape Supply	60.00

VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Old Edwards Cemetery, Shed Building project design, cemetery water feature

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

At 6:20 p.m. John motioned to adjourn the regular board meeting, Stephen seconded and all were in favor.

The next regular board meeting date and time will be June 13, 2023 at 4 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:
Sidney Harrington
Administrator

ATTEST:

Stephen Jones
Minturn Cemetery District
Secretary/Treasurer