

MURPHYS CEMETERY DISTRICT

Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting of November 19, 2014

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by President Alan Armstrong at 7:00 PM. Present were Trustees Alan Armstrong, Jo Brooksher, Laurie Carniglia, Maureen Elliott, Jeff St. Louis. Also present caretaker Robert Yeadon and Supervisor Merita Calloway.

QUORUM: A quorum of five board members was present when the meeting was called to order.

The board retired into closed session at 7PM for the purpose of holding an employee review.

The board returned to open session at 7:16PM. President Alan Armstrong reported that the board had unanimously approved a one time \$1,200 bonus to be paid to the District's caretaker, Robert Yeadon.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

MINUTES: Brooksher moved to accept the Minutes of October 15, 2014 as presented. St. Louis seconded. The motion passed 5/0.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Armstrong had the CD with the map of the original sections of the cemetery on it and gave it to Elliott with the request that copies of the CD be made for all board members and for the caretaker.
2. The trees or shrub choices for the cemetery will not be made until early Spring.
3. Yeadon reported that the first row of blocks to lay the foundation for the curbing on the Baby Plot are laid out and the cement work may be done this week if weather permits.
4. Boone Memorials has completed the work to straighten the obelisk on the plot of Isaac Hitchcock and it is now on a new foundation and standing up straight. They took the broken Stanley grave marker to their shop and will return it when done. When asked the cost, Tanner Boone stated he did not think his dad would agree to charge the cemetery anything for the work done.
5. Elliott reported that the workshop, presented by the County Auditor on the matter of her proposal to charge special districts for transactions handled by her office, went well. Most seemed to understand her need for more staffing, but did not feel that the county would allow her to keep any funds raised from the special districts for a dedicated worker for special district bookkeeping only. Supervisor Calloway suggested that the special districts should submit options that they consider more workable to the Auditor so she has some idea of what might be acceptable to the special districts before she takes her proposal to the Supervisors. Further discussion was tabled until the next board meeting, when a decision will be made on what the Murphys Cemetery board is willing to support.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. A discussion was held on homeless people living in the cemetery. The recent person has left the cemetery since the sheriff's deputy talked with her. If this happens again, the board will ask for a deputy to drive through the cemetery after dark.
2. Invoices to reimburse Robert Yeadon \$1,529.66 for the purchase of the grader and for fuel; to pay the CSDA \$106.75 for annual dues and to pay the CAPC \$60 in annual dues. In addition the board approved renewing their domain name for two years. All invoices were approved.
3. Elliott reported that a new requirement is that a link to the CA State Controllers annual compensation reports be placed on all special district websites. This will be done before the deadline of January 1, 2015
4. Discussion was held on the lack of response from the attorney representing John Harding. He had emailed the board on Sept. 16, stating he needed time to meet with his client but nothing further has come from him. After discussion, Carniglia moved that the cemetery caretaker be instructed to remove items in the cemetery that are on all land belonging to the cemetery district that no one has purchased the interment rights to, including the walkways between plots as well as plots not yet dedicated to a burial. This action to take place on December 31, 2104. All items removed to be stored behind the maintenance building for a maximum of 30 days, after which they will be disposed of. In addition the cemetery district will take no responsibility for any damage or theft of items removed and stored. As a courtesy, this to be put in a letter and sent to attorney Steve Airola as well as his client. Brooksher seconded the motion and the motion passed 5/0.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

1. Fiscal reports as of September 30, 2014 were presented.

CARETAKER REPORT: Yeadon reported that the large Butler plot has been outlined with cement blocks but no further work has been done on the plot.

TRUSTEE REPORTS: Elliott reported on the Schwoerer family holding a ceremony to place a marker on the grave of Lionel Schwoerer to honor him as the descendant of a Revolutionary War soldier.

Elliott showed the trustees a drawing of the marker that will be placed on the grave of Civil War veteran Daniel Dawley.

Elliott gave the SDRMA booklet of this month on Holiday Safety to caretaker Bob Yeadon.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The date of the next board meeting will be Wednesday, December 17, 2014 at 7PM at the Historic Murphys School

ADJOURNMENT: Elliott moved that the meeting be adjourned. Brooksher seconded the motion. The motion passed 5/0 and the meeting was adjourned at 9 PM