

MURPHYS CEMETERY DISTRICT

Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting of March 20, 2013

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by President Alan Armstrong at 7:00 PM at the Historic Murphys School at 65 Jones Street, Murphys, CA. Present were Trustees Alan Armstrong, Maureen Elliott, Jeff St. Louis & Kelly Wright. Also present were caretaker Robert Yeadon and Jeff Stai. Absent was Trustee Louise Carniglia.

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

AGENDA APPROVAL: Wright moved to accept the Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by St. Louis and passed 4/0.

MINUTES: Wright moved to accept the Minutes of January 16 as presented. Elliott seconded the motion. The motion passed 4/0. (There was no board meeting in Feb. 2012 due to snow)

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. County Auditor dept. email stating they had paid phone bill to wrong account number. Elliott called AT&T and they will transfer payment to our account.
2. Letter from J. Schachten asking about a relative's gravestone. Elliott responded sending a photo of the grave marker.
3. A Thank You letter from the family of a deceased was read.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. One of the owners of a neighboring property, who installed a gate in the fence between his property and the cemetery in 2012, told the board why he felt the gate was justified. The board reminded him that there is a resolution in place barring any gates being placed into the cemetery fences. He agreed to remove his gate if the cemetery district would repair the fence. The board agreed to do the repair.
2. Discussion was held on another gate that was installed in the fence in the past month. This property owner, when contacted, apologized and said he had not realized he could not access his property through the cemetery. That gate has been removed.
3. Discussion was held on what action should be taken to get unacceptable items removed from plots. Since J. Harding does not respond to letters, it was decided that Armstrong would contact County Council and request their assistance in drafting an ordinance that would address removal of such items as well as gates and several other items that might lend themselves to being in an ordinance.
4. The check sent to Mr. Bunch for a grave marker deposit was returned as undeliverable. Since this is the 2nd attempt to return the \$50 deposit, the board decided to leave the money in our account until contacted by someone involved in the burial payment.
5. Discussion was held on requesting that the cemetery be allowed to obtain electricity for the cemetery entry gate from the EPVMD. Elliott will attend the EPVMD board meeting to make the request.
6. Caretaker Yeadon showed the board a design he drew for a fence around the plot holding 3 babies. Yeadon will get a bid for the cost of building the gate.
7. Armstrong said he had submitted a work order form to the county Public Works Dept. on the need for road repairs in the cemetery but had not heard back. Elliott will contact them again.
8. It was reported that the dedication ceremony by the NSGW and the NDGW went very well with a large attendance.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Elliott reported that the Calaveras Genealogy Society would like to be allowed to have their members tour the cemetery in June. The board agreed to this request.
2. A discussion was held on the possible need to have the cemetery sprayed for ants. Yeadon to decide if that would be needed. The board would like a price before they spray.
3. Elliott reported that a Civil War group had sent an email about the lack of any grave marker for Civil War Veteran Daniel Dawley. To obtain a Civil War grave marker from the VA would require obtaining Dawley's pension record at a cost of \$30. The board agreed that a marker should be obtained. Elliott to send for the pension file.
4. A 10x10 plot has been sold is being sold back to the cemetery district. This plot has been curbed and has a block in place for putting a gravestone on. After discussion on what price should be put on this plot, it was decided to table it until next month.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

1. There were no plot sales in February.
2. Invoices: It was moved by Elliott and seconded by St. Louis and approved by 4/0 to pay invoices of \$195 to reimburse Maureen Elliott for ordering tile grave markers; pay Angels Pest Control \$2,100 for weed spraying; Hartford Insurance \$2,825 for worker comp insurance; refund \$450 to Conyers for his plot in Section 5; reimburse Bob Yeadon \$51.24 for expenditures made.
3. The Budget vs Actual YTD through January 31, 2012 was presented and discussed.

CARETAKER REPORT: Yeadon reported that 2 more trees along the entry road are dying. When Rodney Tindle is well enough to work, he will make posts for chaining up the new maintenance road at each end. He requested that the board review how the new area of the cemetery will be used so he can start marking grave sites and clearing brush there. Armstrong will bring the survey map of that new area to the next board meeting, for the trustees to look at.

TRUSTEE REPORTS: Elliott reported that the Murphys Tennis Club will be planting evergreen trees below our fence line which will help screen the tennis courts from view.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The date of the next board meeting will be April 17, 2013 at 7PM at the Historic Murphys School

ADJOURNMENT: Wright moved that the meeting be adjourned. Elliott seconded the motion. The motion passed 4/0 and the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 PM