



Minutes Double Butte Cemetery Advisory Committee December 19, 2007

Minutes of the Double Butte Cemetery Advisory Committee meeting held on December 19, 2007, 4:00 p.m., Tempe Public Library – Board Room, 2nd Floor, 3500 S. Rural Rd.

Members Present:

Carol McKnight, Vice-Chair
Fr. John Bonavitacola
Sandi Hutson
Brad Olsen
Katherine Schmidt
Patty Tolson-Gonzalez
Eduarda Yates

Members Absent:

Jim Mack, Chair (excused)
Lois Love-Rizzo (excused)

City Staff Present:

Shawn Wagner, Recreation Supervisor - Parks & Recreation
Cynthia Yanez, Executive Assistant - Parks & Recreation
Sam Thompson, Deputy Manager, Park Services – Parks & Recreation

Meeting convened at 4:00.

Carol McKnight called the meeting to order.

Agenda Item 1 – Consideration of Meeting Minutes – September 19, 2007

The minutes of the September 19, 2007 meeting were accepted as written.

Agenda Item 2 – Public Appearances

None.

Agenda Item 3 – Maintenance Updates

Sam Thompson, Deputy Manager, Parks Services, spoke about ongoing maintenance in the cemetery.

1. The turf is now dormant.
2. Staff continues to mow and trim as needed.
3. There will not be any irrigation until after January.
4. The dead pine tree in the Memorial Gardens was removed.

General Discussion by the Committee:

- The cemetery looks really nice.

Agenda Item 4 – CIP Phase I Update

Shawn Wagner, Recreation Supervisor, spoke about the final negotiations of Phase I.

1. The new plots have been mapped out.
2. Sales will begin on January 3, 2008.

Agenda Item 5 – Cemetery Brochure

Shawn Wagner, Recreation Supervisor, presented a mock up of the new brochure.

1. A picture of the main entrance will replace the current picture on the front cover.
2. A write up and picture of the late Carol Smith is needed for the new brochure.
3. Carol will get contact information for Ms. Smith's family.
4. The map of the cemetery that is included in the brochure will need to be revised.

General Discussion by the Committee:

- Eduarda will send information to Shawn on edits she would like to see made.
- It was suggested that the size of the vertical lines of the brochure be reduced to create more space for text.
- Katherine Schmidt volunteered to serve on the brochure ad hoc committee in place of former committee member Eleanor Pickett.
- Fr. John thought the current size of the brochure would be easier to stack and distribute rather than changing it to a half-fold booklet.

Agenda Item 6 – Memorial Gardens Art Feature

Shawn Wagner, Recreation Supervisor, has been working with the Public Arts members on the possibility of creating an art feature for the Memorial Garden.

1. The late Carol Smith, former chair of the Double Butte Cemetery Advisory Committee, had proposed selling wind chimes that could be installed in the Memorial Gardens.
2. The Public Arts members may offer to create an art feature that includes wind chimes to be placed in the area that was going to be used for a fountain in the center of the Memorial Gardens.
3. The feature would be built tall enough to keep vandals from reaching the chimes.
4. The arts commission will meet on February 26, 2008 and staff should have an answer, at that time, on whether the project has been approved.

Agenda Item 7 – Future Agenda Items

1. Eduarda would like to readdress the preservation and maintenance of the older sections of the cemetery.

Agenda Item 7 – Chair/Board Member Comments

1. A private wall will be erected on the west side of the cemetery to protect the T-Mobile site.
2. The oleanders that belong to the industrial park on the west side of the cemetery will remain in place.
3. Patty Tolson-Gonzalez introduced herself to the committee. She has previously served on the Parks & Recreation Board and is excited to join the cemetery committee.
4. Fr. John Bonavitacola also introduced himself to the committee. He is the Pastor of Mt. Carmel Church. He has provided services at Double Butte Cemetery in the past and he is glad to see that the condition of the cemetery has been improved. He said it's easy for cemeteries to be overlooked.
5. Each of the committee members and staff, in turn, introduced themselves to the new committee members.
6. A new cemetery maintenance position has been added.
7. Additional maintenance staff from Diablo Stadium are assigned to assist with maintenance at the cemetery when time allows.

Meeting adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

Prepared by: Cynthia Yanez, Executive Assistant, (480) 350-5240

Reviewed by: Shawn Wagner, Recreation Supervisor, (480) 350-5299