
Minutes Double Butte Cemetery Advisory Committee February 13, 2008

Minutes of the Double Butte Cemetery Advisory Committee meeting held on February 13, 2008, 4:00 p.m., Tempe Public Library – Board Room, 2nd Floor, 3500 S. Rural Rd.

Members Present:

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

Members Absent:

Lois Love-Rizzo (excused)
Eduarda Yates

City Staff Present:

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

Meeting convened at 4:03.

Jim Mack called the meeting to order.

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

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

Agenda Item 2 – Public Appearances

None.

Agenda Item 3 – Maintenance Updates

Jerry Santee, Parks & Golf Supervisor, provided an update on maintenance activities in the cemetery.

1. Boulders have been strategically placed to keep vehicles from damaging the desert areas.
2. A 4-way stop has been added to the south entrance of the cemetery.

General Discussion by the Committee:

- The chair would like staff to review the roadways where there are steep drops on either side.

Agenda Item 4 – CIP Phase I Update

Shawn Wagner, Recreation Supervisor, informed the committee that, with the exception of some final negotiations, Phase I is complete.

Agenda Item 5 – Sales Update

Shawn Wagner, Recreation Supervisor, shared sales information with the committee.

1. New sales in the Sunrise, Sunset and Memorial Gardens sections of the cemetery have exceeded \$100,000.
2. Interments have been performed in both of the new areas.

Agenda Item 6 – Cemetery Brochure

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

1. The new format includes a fold out map as well as a “book-like” section which features the notables that are interred in Double Butte.
2. The new format is a little more expensive than the double tri-fold, but is a much nicer piece.

MOTION: Sandi Hutson moved to ask staff to move forward with the publication of the new brochure.

SECOND: Patty Tolson-Gonzalez

DECISION: Motion carried.

General Discussion by the Committee:

- Brad thought it would be a good idea to develop a process to add, or remove, names from future brochure publications.
- Brad Olsen, Fr. John Bonavitacola & Katherine Schmidt agreed to meet as a subcommittee to develop guidelines for future changes to the brochure.

Agenda Item 7 – Memorial Gardens Art Feature

Shawn Wagner, Recreation Supervisor, introduced Betsy Fahlman from the Public Arts Commission.

1. A request was made by staff to research the possibility of including a public art feature in the Memorial Gardens.
2. Staff provided a tour of the cemetery and the subcommittee agreed to take their recommendation back to the commission.

3. The request is currently under review and, if approved, they will provide the funding for the art.

General Discussion by the Committee:

- Although the late Carol Smith suggested the installation of Soleri Bells, the artwork may honor her request by including bells or chimes within the art.
- If requests are too specific, it may limit the creativeness of the artist and the piece itself.
- An RFP could include a scope of work to let the artists if there are any specific requests that may be made as a part of the artwork.
- Artist would then provide a sketch, digital photos or images to give the commission an idea of what type of art they would create for this area.
- A commission would be formed to review the submission.
- This commission may consist of arts commission members, cemetery committee members as well as staff.
- The artwork would not only honor the original requestor, but the history of the cemetery as well.
- The artwork would also create additional PR for the cemetery and help to clarify that the cemetery is important to the City of Tempe.
- The commission would make a recommendation to the Public Arts Committee for final approval.
- The consensus of the committee was to have staff continue to work with the Public Arts Commission for the creation and installation of a public art piece in the Memorial Gardens area.

Agenda Item 8 – Future Agenda Items

1. Jim Mack would like to know if another work day will be planned in the cemetery.

Agenda Item 7 – Chair/Board Member Comments

1. Jim Mack thanked Carolyn McKnight for serving as chair in his absence.

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

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

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