



Minutes Double Butte Cemetery Advisory Committee February 17, 2010

Minutes of the Double Butte Cemetery Advisory Committee meeting held on February 17, 2010, 4:00 p.m., Tempe Public Library – Library Board Room, 2nd Floor, 3500 S. Rural Rd.

Members Present:

Brad Olsen, Chair
Sandi Hutson, Vice-Chair
Jim Mack
Katherine Schmidt
Patty Tolson-Gonzalez
Eduarda Yates

Members Absent:

Fr. John Bonavita
Carol McKnight
Mary Turner

City Staff Present:

Shawn Wagner, Recreation Supervisor - Parks & Recreation
Shenee Martin, Administrative Assistant - Parks & Recreation
Tim Pfannenstein, Parks Supervisor – Parks & Recreation

Meeting convened at 4:02

Brad Olsen called the meeting to order.

Agenda Item 1 – Consideration of Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the September 16, 2009 meeting were accepted as written.

Agenda Item 2 – Public Appearances

None.

Agenda Item 3 – Maintenance Updates

Tim Pfannenstein, Parks Supervisor, provided an update on maintenance activities.

1. Recent rains have created issues with run-off washes, debris and sunken graves.
2. A sweeper from the streets department was brought out to clean up the mud from the roadways after the storm.

3. The oleanders between the lawn and desert sections of the cemetery have trimmed back to allow for future growth and health.
4. Pre-emergent has been applied to the desert areas to prevent weeds. The weeds in the lawn sections have also been addressed.
5. A vehicle caused some damage in the southwest area of the cemetery. Staff is working to repair the damage.

Comments:

- The staff might want to consider closing off the back entrance to “through traffic”.
- The staff might also want to look at just locking the back entrance at night.
- The use of a locked gate might hamper security patrols through the cemetery.
- The front gate is open from dawn to dusk.
- The entire cemetery looks great.
- Staff was asked if they might be able to relocate the equipment that is located outside of the maintenance shed and a suggestion was made to repaint the shed to match the walls and Memorial Gardens.
- There is a dead Eucalyptus Tree in Section F that will be removed.
- Staff was asked to look at ways to prohibit vehicles from possibly driving into the Sunset Section from the northeast end, near the Veteran’s Memorial.
- Staff was also asked about the accessibility to the Sunset Section.
- Staff is working on a plan to install additional vegetation on both sides of the main entrance.

Agenda Item 4 – Sales Update

1. Current sales information was included in the committee packets.
2. Staff will continue to look at marketing opportunities.
3. Local mortuaries are aware of the space available in the cemetery.
4. Double Butte Cemetery is listed in the white pages.

Comments:

- Contact information for the cemetery office is posted in the cemetery.
- The cemetery master plan included a visitors’ center, but it was not built due to lack of funds. The land for the center could be used for future burials, if needed.

Agenda Item 5 – Budget Balancing Community Forums

1. The committee was invited to take part in the upcoming budget forums.
2. Feedback can be submitted via the Internet.
3. Department consolidations will take effect July 1.
4. Current recommendations include staff reductions.
5. Staff and council are looking for ways to enhance revenues and reduce expenditures to minimize impacts to city services.
6. Council will approve the final recommendations on March 4.

Agenda Item 6 – Future Agenda Items

1. Public Art Project

Agenda Item 7 – Chair/Board Comments

The next meeting will be held on April 21, 2010.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

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

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