

**TOWN OF SILVER CITY
MINUTES OF THE CEMETERY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING**

**Public Works Administration Building, 610 East 8th St. Silver City, New Mexico
April 22, 2015 - 1:30 p.m.**

Present: Jeff Fell, Vice-Chair
Rider South
Stacy Domino-Mrazik

Also Present: Peter Pena, Public Works Director
Councilor Guadalupe Cano, Ex Officio
Ann Mackie, Town Clerk

CALL TO ORDER – Vice-Chair Fell called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. Chair Miller was not present for medical reasons (excused). Carl Scholl was not present because he was out of town (excused). A quorum of 3 members were present.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA – None.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – March 25, 2015 Regular Meeting – Vice-Chair Fell asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Domino-Mrazik moved to approve the minutes. Vice-Chair Fell seconded. All 3 members that were present voted in favor to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT - None.

REPORTS -

A. Public Works Representative - Mr. Pena reported the following: how there was an influx of burials with 5 burials that week so they were busy digging graves and working with the funeral homes; how they were having problems with the new trees by the Rose Garden and had to wrap them in burlap sacks to keep a type of bird from continuing to poke holes in the trees; how people were commenting about how much they liked the flag and that it was a nice addition to the Cemetery; how staff had concerns about the new section because objects were being placed on the gravesites by families that were not permitted in the rules; and how he and Ms. Nunez needed to agree on a time frame for people to remove any objects that were placed in the new section, and he suggested 1 to 2 weeks; how it was important that people received the rules when purchasing plots; how they would plant native grass in the new section, but were waiting on the rainy season; and how a leak was fixed.

B. Vice-Chair - Vice-Chair Fell commented on the brush pile in the Cemetery and stated the Fire Chief would have to decide if the Fire Department could burn it during a training exercise in order to keep it from being taken to the landfill.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS -

A. Review Ordinance No. 1147 relating to the Rules and Regulations pertaining to the use and maintenance of the Cemetery and vote on any changes to be recommended to the Town Manager. The Board discussed the Rules and Regulations and had the following comments or suggestions:

1) How Part II, Item 1, could stay with 4 plots since it had never been a problem because people seldom bought 4 plots at a time and there was plenty of space in the Cemetery

- 2) How they did not need to add an Item 7 to Part II with language about the ownership of plot(s) reverting back to the Town if not used within 75 years.
- 3) How Part IV would be discussed again when Chair Miller was present, and that Mr. Pena would check with the funeral homes about their procedures when a person's death is from a contagious disease.
- 4) How in Part IV, Section One, Item 7, the words "all of" should be deleted.
- 5) How in Part IV, Section Two, Item 10, the words "excluding individually owned gravesites" should be deleted.
- 6) How they needed to get the rules, if any, about removing or cutting yucca plants since the yucca flowers were the State flower for New Mexico. Ms. Domino-Mrazik said she would look into it.
- 7) Whether or not the brochure with the Rules and Regulations should include the penalty paragraph that is mentioned in Ordinance No. 1147, and that it could possibly be added under A. Rules, Item 11.
- 8) Whether or not the Cemetery should have a sign posted about the penalties.

The Board members stated they would like to continue the discussion at the next meeting.

B. Discuss the Town and Country Garden Club's record keeping of the cremains in the Rose Garden and how the records should also be maintained by the Town for the Cemetery records. Ms. Nunez brought the record book from City Hall that included the name, date of birth, and date of death of persons whose cremains were buried in the Rose Garden. She said someone from the Town and Country Garden Club used to come to City Hall to update it; that there were 2 sections to the book; and that it had not been updated since 2010 and 2011. Ms. Domino-Mrazik and Mr. South, members of the Town and Country Garden Club, said they would work to update the book.

New Business -

A. Discuss the possibility of having historical markers placed on the gravesites of the regional and national historic figures that were buried in the Memory Lane Cemetery. Vice-Chair Fell said he forgot to bring information about it and asked to hold off discussion until the next meeting.

B. Discuss the agenda items for the next meeting on May 27, 2015. The next agenda would include more discussion on the Rules and Regulations of the Cemetery and discussion about having historical markers placed on the gravesites of the regional and national historic figures that were buried in the Memory Lane Cemetery.

ADJOURNMENT – Vice-Chair Fell made a motion to adjourn at 2:17 p.m. Ms. Domino-Mrazik seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion carried.

Elizabeth Miller, Chair

Attest:

Ann L. Mackie, Town Clerk

