

ARLINGTON CEMETERY BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 31, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Chairperson Florence Dahl-Bigaouette

Members Present: Chairperson Dahl-Bigaouette, Burdorf, Councilmember Borchert, Glieden,  
Goblirsch, Pomplun, Wiemann

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Mayor Czech, Supt. Thomes

Motion by Goblirsch, seconded by Wiemann, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the minutes from the April 26, 2006 meeting.

Chairperson Dahl-Bigaouette commented on how nice the entrance looks since Redwood Nursery had done the landscaping. She questioned if there was any money left to carry over into next year's project. Pomplun stated that approximately \$1,100 was left and the final bills had not all come in yet, but would let the Board know the final numbers.

Discussion was held on starting to put a 5-year plan together for future projects within the cemetery. Chairperson Dahl-Bigaouette questioned how they could start planning anything when they didn't know how much the Council was planning to budget each year. Pomplun stated the way Administrator Krueger had explained it to her was the Council would try to budget accordingly to the project at hand each year, provided funds were available to do so. Considerable discussion was held on what to include (sod removal, rock, trees, brick pavers, fabric) with the island project. Borchert pointed out that some trimming would have to be done yearly and probably paid for using some of the budgeted money for projects. Goblirsch commented that he believed that Redwood would come back yearly to trim at no charge. Pomplun will check on this. Borchert commented that he liked the look of the island with the sod in it. He also expressed concern that if rock gets put in, kids will play in the rock and throw it around. It was suggested to leave the sod for another year as it was already established. Borchert suggested just asking the Council to budget a flat rate, that way the Board would know what they had to work with each year. Thomes suggested transplanting the trees from Main Street when they have outgrown the planters (total of 5 years), which would help keep the costs down. It was the consensus of the Board to put the island project on hold for a year or so and to just ask the Council for a flat rate (specific amount) each year; that way the Board could plan their projects accordingly. Pomplun questioned if monthly meetings were still needed now that the entrance/landscaping was done. She commented that there was no urgency as they had just started discussing the 5-year plan to look ahead to future projects. Goblirsch feels that monthly meetings are still needed to keep things moving (get the next 5 years planned out and research costs/ideas). The Board agreed that monthly meetings were needed and that something (a plan) should be put in writing as a guide to follow. Some discussion was held on how to break up projects into phases (splitting up the initial 2 phases from Redwood Nursery into 4 phases).

Borchert commented on how soon the area in the south portion of the cemetery would fill up. Pomplun pointed out that at least 2 (if not 2 ½) full rows of lots were taken up by the techny arborvitae trees and with future perimeter projects they would have to also consider the number of lots they will loose (space needed for trees, shrubs, etc. to grow) or be willing to give up. Thomes added that putting in another road will again take up space. Brief discussion was held on abandoned lots and whether or

not to allow burials in the new entrance area.

Motion by Goblirsch, seconded by Borchert, and passed by unanimous vote to set a policy that no grave sites will be sold in the west part of the cemetery (new entrance area) until the 1<sup>st</sup> Addition is filled up.

Goblirsch questioned what had been sprayed in the cemetery; it appeared like lots were being marked/identified in the older section. Thomes stated that dandelion spray was the only thing that had been used. He added that it was possible that cement borders were coming to the surface and that was the reason the grass was browning up. He stated that many years ago, they used cement borders to block off family plots, which had been covered over with dirt and grass.

Borchert spoke on cremation and it becoming more popular. He suggested re-landscaping the area next to the old entrance and designating it for cremation burials (smaller lots) only or build a structure above ground (granite wall with brass plates) where people can buy a space to put cremains into (some people don't want an earth burial). He suggested that the old entrance could be closed off and the roadway rerouted (a curve added) back towards the new entrance, essentially giving the cemetery a quieter, more peaceful atmosphere. He feels that this area should not be forgotten about just because it is in the older section; things can be done to make it more appealing to the public. The Board was favorable to the suggestion. Goblirsch suggested to include this in the 5-year plan and to start researching the cost and everything associated with it. Borchert suggested to the Board to stop by Emanuel Lutheran Church outside Hamburg to see their structure; it is a very simple structure.

Brief discussion was held on the purpose of the white cross near the old entrance. It was believed to be used for hanging the wreath on during the Veterans program on Memorial Day, which is now held at Memorial Park. It was suggested to remove it.

Goblirsch commented on the speed of vehicles traveling through the cemetery (faster than a walking pace). He suggested putting up a small speed limit sign (10 mph) at the new entrance.

Brief discussion was held on how things have been progressing with determining the abandoned lots in the cemetery. Pomplun stated that the city staff does not have time and this project unfortunately has been put on the back burner for the time being. Goblirsch commented that he had comprised a list of possible lots to check on. He suggested adding this to the 5-year plan (to get it done).

Pomplun gave an update on the "reserved" lots. She stated that some of the lots had been paid for and a couple of individuals were still discussing this with their families. The City was still working on this.

The next regular meeting is June 28, 2006 at 8:00 a.m.

Motion by Pomplun, seconded by Burdorf, and passed by unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting.

---

Secretary Vicki L. Pomplun