MINUTES
TOWN OF QUARTZSITE
REGULAR MEETING HI JOLLY CEMETERY BOARD
465 N. PLYMOUTH AVE.
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2016, 3:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: 3:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL OF THE BOARD:

Chairperson: Bruce Swart, present
Board Member: Art Larsen, present
Board Member: Audrey Berger, absent
Board Member: Gary McBroom, present
Vice Chairperson: Carol "Lynn" Stimson, absent
Board Member: Sandy Scott, present
Board Member: Dee Sheehan, present

CALL TO THE PUBLIC: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular meeting minutes of the Hi Jolly Cemetery Board taken on October 3, 2016.

Board Member Gary McBroom moved to accept the minutes as written, and Board Member Art Larsen seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion Carried.

BUSINESS:

1. Discussion and possible action to recommend designs for a memorial wall to Council.

Chairperson Bruce Swart explained why he had asked that this item be placed on the agenda. He said he thought it would be nice to have a wall to recognize contributions.

Dinice Ross said it had been discussed before and the thought was that plaques might go on the ends of the cremation wall.

There was a discussion of painting the ends of the cremation wall and how the plaques would be affixed to the ends. Dinice said the plaques would need to be screwed into place. It was suggested that the plaques be glued and screwed.

Chairperson Bruce Swart said he would try to get prices by the next Board Meeting. He said he would need to know what type of material the Board was thinking of so that he could take something to show the person who makes plaques.

Chairperson Bruce Swart said he would go to the Cemetery and measure the size of the ends of the cremation wall and look at how many plaques could be used across and down with a nice amount of space at the top to say what the plaques are for with some space after each plaque.

Chairperson Bruce Swart said he would like approval from the Board to go measure the ends of the cremation wall and get some samples and pricing. Board Member Art Larsen said he so moved, and Board Member McBroom seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion Carried.

Chairperson Bruce Swart said the Board would table any further discussion or motion until the next meeting.

2. Discussion and possible permission to share the Board Members email addresses with the entire Board.

There was a discussion of using emails as reminders for the meetings. Not all Members used their email addresses enough to make it work.

Chairperson Bruce Swart suggested phone texting might be easier and more efficient. Most Members said they use texting. Those that did not would still receive phone calls.

Chairperson Bruce Swart moved to have the Board Members allow the Town and Dinice Ross to use the Board Members' telephone numbers to send texts for notifications of meetings and anything else that might come up. Board Member Art Larsen seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion Carried.

3. Discussion only regarding increasing Cemetery fees.

Dinice said it was time to check to see if the Board needed to adjust the Cemetery fees.

Current fees, those approved by the Town Council on July 28, 2015, were reviewed.

Current fees were discussed further.

Chairperson Bruce Swart asked when the last time was that the fees were increased.

Dinice Ross explained the fees were raised in 2009 and 2011 in increments, with the cremation fees raised lastly.

There was a discussion of headstones and their fees in various towns and cities.

Dinice Ross said that if the Town provides the headstone, it is made of granite with only the name, date of birth and date of death.

There was a discussion of purchasing headstones before the need for them.

Board Member Scott noted that prices of headstones are raised through the years.

Chairperson Bruce Swart said he left it to Dinice Ross' discretion on a case-by-case basis whether or not headstones could be purchased before they were needed.

Dinice Ross read aloud some costs of gravesites from Consumer Information from the Internet's CostHelper.com.

The average cost of a gravesite was $200 - $900 with costs for non-residents as much as twice that.

There was a discussion of comparing fees for cemetery services from various cities and towns.

Chairperson Bruce Swart asked how many non-residents were buried in the Cemetery.

Dinice Ross said almost half of the people interred in the Cemetery were not full-time residents of Quartzsite.

Chairperson Bruce Swart spoke of charging a fee for burials in the Cemetery for non-residents.

Dinice said people would argue about residency because some believe they are residents of the Town of Quartzsite and of where they live the other half of the year.

Chairperson Bruce Swart said his definition of a resident is someone that lives in Quartzsite twelve months a year - full time.

There was a discussion of non-resident fees from various cities and towns.

The Board agreed that $200 for a non-residency fee was reasonable.

Dinice Ross said there are approximately 230 plots available in the Cemetery.

Chairperson Bruce Swart said it was shocking to hear that half of the Cemetery was full of non-full-time residents.

Chairperson Bruce Swart asked Dinice Ross to find out how other cities and towns determine residency and non-residency, in particular in Eager, Welton and Pinetop.

Dinice Ross agreed to do some research to get the requested information.

Dinice said she thought the gravesite plot fees could be raised, but that she wanted it to be simple.

There was a discussion of perpetual maintenance.

Dinice Ross said she did not want to put customers or herself through the stress and emotional strain of determining who is a resident and who is a non-resident.

There was a discussion of the need for more land for the Cemetery from the BLM.

Board Member Dee Sheehan asked if the headstone fee could be included in the plot price.

Dinice Ross explained some customers get their own headstones and each want different things.

Board Member Dee Sheehan asked how many of the last fifty people that were buried had headstones.

Dinice Ross said there were a couple of people from the last fifty burials that did not have gravestones.

Chairperson Bruce Swart tabled the agenda item to allow time for Dinice Ross to find out more about how other cities and towns determine residency for burial purposes.

REPORTS AND POSSIBLE DISCUSSION:

1. **Russ of RVer TV uploaded on youtube/OKwx2v64h2U a short clip on the Cemetery (and some clips of the Town). He will be doing more later to promote the vendors.**

Dinice Ross said she had received a letter from the Desert Messenger. It directed the reader to check out the video that contained a short clip of the Cemetery.

2. **Audrey Berger's seat on the Board.**

Dinice Ross said the Board needed to get Audrey Berger's seat filled because she has moved away.

Chairperson Bruce Swart asked that something be placed in the paper about the need to fill the position.

3. **The sale of Totem RV.**

Dinice Ross announced that the Totem RV was sold. She reminded the Board Members that it had garbage next to the Cemetery. She said she thought it was being cleaned up.

Dinice Ross asked that Wreaths Across America Day be placed on the next agenda.

Board Member Art Larsen moved to adjourn and Board Member Dee Sheehan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion Carried.

ADJOURNMENT: 4:15 p.m.

CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Hi Jolly Cemetery Board of Quartzsite, Arizona, held on November 7, 2016.

I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

DATED this 16th day of December 2016.

Dinice Ross

Dinice Ross, Cemetery Coordinator
Hi Jolly Cemetery Board Staff Liaison