

Cemetery Board  
May 5, 2022

A regular meeting of the City of Waxahachie Cemetery Board was held on Thursday, May 5, 2022 at 8:30 a.m. in the City Council Conference Room, 401 S. Rogers, Waxahachie, Texas.

Members Present: Peggy Crabtree, Chairman  
Connie McGuire  
Chelsea Holder  
Perry Giles

Members Absent: Chad Hicks

Others Present: Gumaro Martinez, Executive Director of Parks & Leisure Services  
Brad Barnes, Assistant Parks & Recreation Director  
Yadira Campos, Recreation Specialist

**1. Call to Order**

Chairman Peggy Crabtree called the meeting to order.

**2. Public Comments**

None

**3. Approval of minutes of the City Cemetery Board meeting of March 3, 2022**

**Action:**

*Ms. Connie McGuire moved to approve the minutes of the Cemetery Board meeting of March 3, 2022. Ms. Chelsea Holder seconded, All Ayes.*

**4. Consider request by Jerry and Shirley Chapman to purchase lots adjacent to Addition 2, Block 3, Lot 6**

Mr. Brad Barnes, Assistant Parks & Recreation Director, stated probing was done at the vacant lots near Mr. Chapman's lots and stated no findings or records were found. Mr. Gumaro Martinez, Executive Director of Parks & Leisure Services, noted that it would not be best practice to resell plots of unknown families. Ms. Chelsea Holder suggested to research all possibilities in order to discover whether there is ownership to the vacant lots.

The Board further discussed the necessary tasks needing to be completed before reselling the vacant lots. Mr. Chapman will be informed and would take responsibility for the necessary items in order purchase the lots.

**5. Hear update on cemetery plot sales and services**

Ms. Yadira Campos, Recreation Specialist, reported cemetery activities as follows:

- March – 5 plots sales, 1 cremation plot sale and 6 funeral services held
- April - 5 plot sales and 7 funeral services held

**6. Hear update on cemetery vandalism**

Mr. Barnes announced results from the Historic Waxahachie Inc. fundraiser noting \$30,000 was raised including the HWI, Inc. donation.

Mr. Barnes reported of the 287 damaged headstones, 146 headstones have been repaired. A quote has been requested from Texas Cemetery Restoration to repair the remaining damaged headstones. The consensus of the Board was to proceed with repairs if the quote returned with an estimate of less than \$50,000 for repairs. The Board further discussed creating a master plan and procedures to prevent future vandalism.

Ms. Connie McGuire asked if there were any plans on placing the cemetery dumpster near the Columbarium in a different location within the Cemetery. Mr. Martinez responded with future plans on enclosing the dumpster.

**7. Discuss footstone remnants and take action**

Mr. Martinez asked the Board for recommendations on the footstone remnants. Ms. Crabtree shared she spoke with cemetery experts and their recommendations were to bury the footstones to preserve them from elements. After further discussion, the Board decided on documenting each footstone and burying them in a location within the Cemetery.

Mr. Martinez shared information with the Board on a gravestone preservation workshop at the Cemetery on June 6<sup>th</sup> hosted by Atlas Preservation for internal staff.

**8. Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Yadira Campos  
Recreation Specialist