

**MINUTES OF THE
CITY OF CARLSBAD
CEMETERY ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
MUNICIPAL ANNEX CONFERENCE ROOM
114 S. HALAGUENO
THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 2022**

1. ROLL CALL OF VOTING MEMBERS AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM.

Voting Members Present:	Dick VanDyk Suzanne Carlsen Desiree Kicker	Chairman Member Member
Voting Members Absent:	—	
Ex-Officio Members Present:	—	
Ex-Officio Members Absent:	John Lowe Dale Janway	City Administrator Mayor
Others Present:	Diana Dorado Pat Cass Orlando Garza	Cemetery Coordinator Director of Public Works Cemetery Groundskeeper

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The motion was made to approve the Agenda by Mrs. Carlsen and seconded by Mrs. Kicker Voting Yes - VanDyk, Carlsen, Kicker. Voting No – None. Absent – None. The motion passed.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OCTOBER 21, 2021:

The motion was made by Mrs. Carlsen and seconded by Mrs. Kicker to approve the Minutes for the October 21, 2021 meeting. Voting Yes - VanDyk, Carlsen, Kicker. Voting No – None. Absent – None. The motion passed.

4. CEMETERY FINANCIAL REPORTS

Mr. Cass discussed the financials. Mr. VanDyk asked about the status of all the capital projects. Mr. Cass said that the shed installation project is complete as well as the fencing project around Santa Teresa Cemetery. Diana said the cemetery software project is almost complete.

5. MONTHLY CEMETERY REPORTS

The Cemetery Board looked over the Monthly Reports for October, 2021 through December, 2021. Mr. VanDyk asked Mr. Cass if the code enforcement issue in the cemetery was ever discussed with John Lowe. Mr. Cass said that he is still waiting for John Lowe to set up a meeting to discuss that issue. Mr. Garza said he is willing to do the code enforcement clean-up and

remove anything that is against the cemetery regulations but he is waiting to get the approval from Mr. Cass. Mr. Cass said that code enforcement at the cemetery is a very touchy subject because the public gets very upset when anything is removed from their loved one's grave. Mr. Cass said that he needs to get approval from John Lowe before Mr. Garza can proceed with the removal of any items. Mr. VanDyk said that he does not understand why they need to get permission from John Lowe first before they can proceed with enforcing the cemetery rules if the rules have already been in place for a very long time. Mr. VanDyk said if someone is violating a cemetery rule the Cemetery Department should be able to just enforce the rule instead of having to seek approval from the City Administrator first. Mr. VanDyke asked Mr. Cass if the Cemetery Department is just supposed to let everyone do whatever they want to do just so that they don't upset anyone. Mr. Cass said the Cemetery Board is only an advisory group. Mrs. Carlsen said that she has been attending Cemetery Board Meetings for over 25 years and has been an actual Cemetery Board member for 4 years and she has never heard anyone tell the Cemetery Board that they are only an advisory group. The Cemetery Board has always given direction on certain issues that come up. They have always voted on issues and the higher administration has always taken the Board's recommendations and acted on them. Mrs. Carlson said she doesn't know if it's because of the current administration but the Cemetery Board has never had to ask for permission to enforce the rules but here lately it has gotten so bad and nothing is ever getting resolved. Mr. VanDyk said that the cemetery rules that are in place are supposed to be the guidelines that everyone follows but now there is certain people in the higher administration that say that they don't want to offend anyone or hurt anyone's feelings. Mr. VanDyk asked Mr. Cass if he was allowed to make any decisions at all. Mr. Cass said he is allowed to make some decisions but the flag removal issue is something that needs to get approval first from the higher administration. Mrs. Kicker asked Mr. Cass if the real issue was that Mayor Janway doesn't want to upset the public. Mr. Cass said Mayor Janway doesn't want anyone to get upset. Mrs. Kicker said that no is an answer too and it can't always be yes to the public.

Mr. Vandyke said that he is the Cemetery Board President and he is supposed to be the leader of the Cemetery Board but he doesn't feel like he is the leader of the board but rather just the guy that signs the IRA's and calls the meetings. He said they sit there for an hour and complain and nothing ever gets done and no issues ever get resolved and for that reason he is resigning as a Cemetery Board member. Mr. Vandyk said that he cannot be a part of a committee where nothing ever gets accomplished.

6. CEMETERY MAINTENANCE REPORT

Mr. Garza discussed his monthly report. He said that his crew has been mulching leaves and picking up so much trash and flowers that all the recent heavy winds have been scattering. He said that the new irrigation system has been installed and completed in the Honor Guard Cemetery. Mr. Garza said that he is having an issue with people using the designated Honor Guard Cemetery section as a parking lot when attending funerals and they are damaging sprinklers in the process. Mr. Garza said he purchased some pylons to place around that area to prevent anyone from parking there and for now it seems to have resolved that issue. He said they are currently only watering once a week throughout all the cemeteries.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.



Chairman

7-21-2022

Date