

DeFuniak Springs Cemetery Board
Special Meeting
May 3, 2016

The following members were present: Mayor Bob Campbell, and Cemetery Board Members Lee Thomas and Jack Owen, Assistant Public Works Director Craig Drake, Municipal Services Worker Darren Donaldson and City Clerk Loretta Laird.

Mayor Campbell called the meeting to order at 5 p.m.

Request to be on the agenda

Magnolia Cemetery Fence – Gordon Maclean, Ameripartment Management Trust
Gordon MacLean, Ameripartment Management Trust, requested assistance from the city relating to persons passing through Magnolia Cemetery to reach his property located at 125 North Davis Lane. MacLean discussed numerous concerns where visitors have been requested to leave the premises due to altercations, vandalism, and disturbances occurring on his property. MacLean requested the city to attest with the installation of a fence along the eastern boundary of the cemetery property. Discussion occurred relating to having security cameras installed along the perimeter, grant funds to assist with the fence installation, and a neighborhood watch program being created for the area.

No action was taken by the board at this time.

City Clerk Loretta Laird

Unmarked grave project

City Clerk Loretta Laird requested permission to contact local monument companies to provide a sealed quote for unmarked grave markers within Magnolia Cemetery. Laird stated the sealed quotes would be presented to the board at the July 19, 2016, regular meeting. Laird stated the marker specifications sent to the local monument companies did not comply with the size of the marker and requested the specifications be changed. Laird further requested the birth year and death year be installed on the marker versus the death date.

Committee member Owen made a motion to have City Clerk Loretta Laird contact the local monument companies to provide a sealed quote for nine unmarked grave makers at the next regular board meeting with the companies providing a sample maker with an individual's name, birth year and death year, seconded by Committee member Thomas. Motion carried 3-0.

Municipal Code Changes

City Clerk Loretta Laird presented municipal code changes relating to Section 6-1.1 Burial Plots. Laird stated she has reviewed the adopted ordinance and additional changes need to be made referencing indigent plots and the sell and/or transfer of burial plots. Laird requested the board members review the current ordinance and make suggestions to her for the next regular meeting. No action was taken by the board at this time.

Personal Items left on graves

City Clerk Loretta Laird presented pictures of several burial sites where family members have left personal items within the lettered section of Magnolia Cemetery. Municipal Services Worker Daren Donaldson stated the items have remained on the burial sites for a number of months and request permission to eliminate the clutter within the area.

Committee member Owen made a motion to have staff remove personal items left on grave sites in the lettered section and to hold the items for a two-week time frame, and dispose of afterwards if required, seconded by Mayor Campbell. Motion carried 3-0.

Cremations allowed in each plot

Committee member Owen discussed being contacted by local residents to allow two (2) cremations interred within one burial plot in the lettered section of Magnolia Cemetery.

Committee member Thomas made a motion to recommend approval to the DeFuniak Springs City Council to allow two (2) cremations interred within one burial plot in the lettered section of Magnolia Cemetery, seconded by Committee member Owen. Motion carried 3-0.

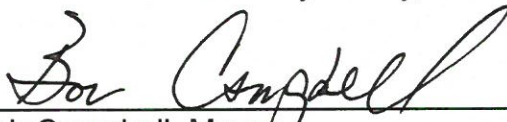
Map Project Volunteers

City Clerk Loretta Laird stated she has received a request from local citizens to assist with the cemetery mapping process. Discussion occurred relating to having the citizen sign a liability form holding the city from any injuries incurred during the volunteer process.

Mayor Campbell made a motion to allow local citizens assist with the Magnolia Cemetery mapping project contingent a liability waiver is received by city staff prior to any volunteer work is performed, seconded by Committee member Owen. Motion carried 3-0.


There being no further business, Mayor Campbell adjourned the meeting at 6:07 p.m.

ADOPTED this 19th day of July, 2016.



Bob Campbell, Mayor

ATTEST:



Loretta A Laird, City Clerk