

Langley Woodmen Cemetery Board Meeting

28 February 2011

11:00 AM City Hall

Board members Marilyn Strong, Marilyn Helsel, R. James Enslow, and City staffer, Debbie Mahler. Carey Peterson was present for the first half hour. Excused was city council liaison, Rene Neff.

- 1) Last month's minutes were reviewed and adopted as is.
- 2) Concern was expressed over the possible departure of Rene Neff from the cemetery board, as written in a recent article in the Whidbey Record. Marilyn spoke with her this morning to see if she would like to continue if it was possible for us to find an alternative meeting time to the fourth Monday of the month at 11:00 am. Rene very much does want to continue if another meeting time is possible. She cannot do the second or fourth Mondays because of her work commitment at the gallery. Tuesdays she is free all day.
- 3) After discussion the board set a monthly meeting time of 4:30 PM on the fourth Tuesday of the month.
- 4) Cemetery garbage: Cary reported that the city would accept garbage at the sewage treatment plant for a fee. Operating fund has money for this. Debris is accepted without charge. George Mason, a FLWC board member has offered to collect cemetery garbage and take it to the plant on a regular basis, to be determined according to need.
- 5) Cary has also talked with Jim Lux about taking on the mowing job. He has a business doing low-impact land clearing and is very skilled and familiar with grading and mowing equipment. In fact, he graded the Ash Garden many years ago and created the slope with the path below the fern border.

Because of his business he has the appropriate insurance we need for mowing. She asked him if he would mow the cemetery using our mower at a rate of \$25/hr. He went to check on the mower, (which has been relocated to Linda Anderson's next door to the cemetery) said it is in good condition, and said yes. Jim has the mowing and the mowing repair skills that we need, and is also very perceptive and observant so would be able to mow according to our needs and budget. She is recommending him for the subcontracting of the cemetery mowing. Challis Stringer has ok'd us hiring him without going through a process of asking for bids. The Board was grateful for Cary's time and work on this and feels that this is the right next step.

- 6) There is to be a work party on Sunday 13 March, 1PM. Public works is to provide a trailer on Friday.
- 7) Reviewed the budget for 2011 prepared by Debbie. Caught Cary up with revisions made during her absence. Improvement fund has a balance of \$90,000. Some budget items may be subject to amendment as time passes.
- 8) Marilyn reported on her meetings with Cary and with Allen Ament re: group that is proposing to buy ten or so green burial plots together but set apart in some way. The conversation is still in process. We have suggested to them an area across the road and would be arranged two-by-two instead of three-by-three. There is room for probably up to 12 graves there, depending upon how many people join this group. They will need to be plotted by Challis and her crew if they agree to the area. Allen seems to have some concerns about the location. However, we feel it will give them the best option for have in a "set-apart" area. Cary has volunteered to take on the next round of meetings with Allen Ament and Rabbi Ted Falcon to revisit the locating of this area.
- 9) The cemetery brochure was reviewed. Policies section will be moved to the back of the pricing insert, Green Burial policies and procedures will be added to main brochure, and Green Burial prices will be added to pricing insert. Marilyn will mock up for review and bring to next meeting.

10) Next meeting is Tuesday, 29 March 2011.