

Advisory Committee:

- Sharon Huettl, Chair
- Mandy Dendy, Vice Chair
- Cindy Rebenitsch, Citizen
- Marsha Boehm, Citizen
- Becky Hilfer, Citizen
- Sandy Tibke, City Commissioner
- Jim Neubauer, Administration
- Jeff Wright, Public Works
- Chad Boehm, Grounds Maintenance
- Nancy Moser, Secretary

Mandan Union Cemetery Advisory Committee
Thursday, April 21, 2016
6:30 p.m.

1. Roll Call.

2. Installation of regulations sign.

Jeff passes out two drafts of a sign. He asks the board to look it over and for their opinion on the colors. The size of the sign is discussed. The 2 x3' option may be too small and the 4'x6' too big. The 3'x4' may be good. Jeff will check on that size first. Another option may be 4'x4'. The black lettering on green background is the favorite colors. There will be a city logo in the upper left hand corner. The thought is to begin with one sign at the entrance. More signs can be added later. Grounds maintenance would like to see the back entrance closed eventually. A fence would probably have to be constructed to accomplish that. Jeff will work on getting the sign quote in the coming week. The sign should be posted by Memorial Day.

Becky Hilfer arrives at 6:45 p.m.

3. Upcoming projects. Report from Chad: park & entrance plantings, benches, and painting arch.

Chad hands out his Memorial Day to do list:

- He wants to expand on the plantings at the entrance. A patron didn't want 2 cement planters that needed to be removed and he has another set of 2 planters he could use at the front entrance. He wants to plant annuals in these. He was thinking marigolds (because they deter deer), petunias and patience .

- Chad hands out a map of the park. He wants to plant white petunias or blanket of snow where the cross is. He wants to do 2 flower gardens where the brown areas are, on the map. Both gardens would have annuals and perennials. The south garden should have shorter flowers because the bench would be in the middle. The 2 grey areas on the map is where he wants to put benches. There are benches that have been left behind by patrons. The two oblong areas on the north side are where there are currently rows of peony bushes. He wants to add wood chips around the peonies to deter grass from growing there. There is discussion about the wood chips. The chips could get into the grass and kill it. Marsha suggests bunching the woods chips closer to the plants and leaving an edge around the border so he can mow. The wood chips need time to settle otherwise the wind could blow them around. Mandy suggests rose bushes in the north garden. There are smaller varieties that come in different colors.

- *Chad wants to paint the arch at the entrance a glossy black with white lettering. It would have to be pressure washed and sanded first.*

- *All the bushes and shrubs in the cemetery have to be trimmed and shaped.*

- *Tree stump removal. There are more or less 20 stumps that are in the way of mowing.*

- *Replace spotlights in the park. The ones there are not really meant for that. He has to replace the bulbs too often. He wants to replace them with some spotlights better suited for the purpose.*

4. Notify the public about the June 1 deadline for memento's that need to be picked up or they will be discarded. Should a reminder on the rules be published?

There is still quite a bit of things left that have to be removed by June 1st. Jeff is working with Krista to get a reminder in the Mandan Messenger and what other media she thinks we should use. Everybody would like to have this out before Memorial Day. Mandy suggests a temporary sign at the cemetery. A lot of people only come around Memorial Day and a sign out there would be a good reminder for them to remove items, but do not want to confuse patrons leaving items for Memorial Day. Maybe word the sign to direct people who are looking for missing items as well. Jeff will check on the rent-a-sign.

Nancy gives board members a copy of the brochure that was made.

5. Future projects: columbarium, meditation area.

Jeff has worked with the city auditor to earmark funding for a columbarium. The money comes from the state and could stop coming, but we may be able to go forward with the columbarium this year.

Chad wants to place the columbarium on the west side of Block 10. The columbarium is a wall with niches that look like safety deposit boxes. A tile can be engraved and then slides in front of the niche. We would start with one wall containing up to 144 niches. Additional walls could be added later. The price is approximately \$12,000. Sharon would like to see a blueprint with a plan of how future walls would be added and would like to see a garden area here as well. Chad would like to put a garden area in the middle of columbarium walls. The average height is 6'. The niches are customizable, so you could have single and double or different sizes in the same wall. There would be a maximum size of urn that could fit in the niches. We may have to establish a criteria for the font etched on the tiles.

6. Committee members provide email addresses, phone numbers and mailing addresses.

7. Mission statement for webpage.

The board wants a mission statement to put on the website and brochures.

Sharon wrote this mission statement: We celebrate and remember life by providing a respectful resting place for our families of all faiths while preserving our heritage of our past generations and providing a legacy for our future generations.

The board members will work on their ideas for a mission statement and email them to Nancy before the next meeting, so they can be included with the next meeting agenda.

8. Other topics for discussion.

Chad has a budget for planting flowers each year.

Another meeting will be scheduled when Jeff knows about the funding for a columbarium.

Sharon and/or Mandy will look into what the guidelines are for state mandated perpetual care fees.

9. Adjourn.

Becky motions to adjourn. Sharon seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Meeting adjourns at 7:50 p.m.