

**Mandan Union Cemetery Advisory Committee**  
**GoToMeeting**  
**Minutes – Monday, June 1, 2020**  
**7:30 a.m.**

**Advisory Committee:**

Sharon Huettl, Chair

Susan Kuntz, Citizen

Victoria Vayda, Citizen

Erica Bertman, Citizen

open seat, Citizen

Mike Braun, City  
Commissioner

Mitch Bitz, Public Works

Nancy Moser, Secretary

Jason Herman, Grounds  
Maintenance Supervisor

Alyson Gross, Grounds  
Maintenance

**1. Roll Call.**

**2. Approval of the March 2, 2020 minutes.**

*Mike Braun motions to approve the March 2, 2020 minutes. Victoria seconds. Motion passes by unanimous vote.*

**3. Updates from Jason on cemetery happenings.**

*a. How was Memorial Day weekend?*

*Jason said Memorial Day weekend went well. Complaints have lessened from years past. There was one complaint that went to the mayor. A 1902 headstone is sinking. Jason said it is being worked out with the family. There has been more traffic in the cemetery since Covid19 broke out. YCC will be back in a couple of weeks to start assisting over the summer months.*

*b. Update on North side of cemetery along refinery fence.*

*Jason said he is moving forward with the refinery on hydro seeding to the north. Eventually would like to eliminate the road. The plan is to remove the cattle*

*gates and a couple of trees.*

*c. Monument for scattering garden.*

*The monument is estimated to cost \$4000 to \$5000. We didn't have it in the budget this year. Hopefully, it will be added to the 2021 budget. Right now it is down to essentials. Jason says the city did have an extra bench that has been placed there. The previous grounds maintenance supervisor said he was working with Weigel who said they would donate a monument, but that has fallen by the wayside. We probably do not want to pursue that.*

*d. Trees.*

*A number of trees have been cut down. We will no longer be getting donated trees from Dakota Community Bank. It is believed they decided to donate trees to Parks & Rec instead. The plan was to place them along the east border. Will have to apply for grants and try to acquire trees that way. Susan asks if people can donate trees and is interested in what the cost is for a tree. People can donate money to go towards trees. Victoria made a substantial contribution to the Boulevard Tree program.*

*e. Rate changes for next year.*

*The rate for full winter burials is currently a \$50 difference between residents and non-residents. The difference for full summer burials is \$150. The full winter burial rate will be corrected starting 2021. Jason checked with other cemeteries regarding their weekend and after hour charges. They all pretty much have one flat rate. We charge \$100 extra for cremations and \$200 extra for full burials. This will be changed to one flat rate.*

**4. Memorial Fund.**

*Nancy had sent Memorial Fund information to funeral services. No new information on the fund.*

**5. Scattering garden listed on website, ok?**

*The only place on the website where the scattering garden is mentioned is under rates. Nancy will add burial option information to the cemetery homepage. The board can review it and give their input on it at the next meeting.*

**6. Mandan Messenger article about plantings damaging monuments.**

*We did get a couple of calls regarding trees/roots possibly damaging monuments. One was blocking an alleyway. Jason is working with the patrons. One caller was from Colorado and gave Jason the o.k. to remove a small tree. When patrons are presented with the facts, they are more understanding.*

**7. Grant money applications.**

*No grant applications were filled out this year. Looking to do that for next year.*

**8. Letters of interest for open seat.**

*Victoria recuses herself from voting on this item. Susan and Erica don't have copies of the interest letters and would like to table this until the next meeting.*

**9. Other Business**

*City Commission approved the installation of a concrete parking lot for the Grounds Maintenance Building.*

*Commissioner Braun motions to adjourn.  
Susan seconds.*

*Meeting adjourns at 8:38 a.m.*