

Friends of St. John's Cemetery Foundation
Board of Director's Meeting of
March 24, 2014

Members in attendance:

Dolores de La Rúa
Jim Speed
Edwin Wallace

Dwight Watson
Emily Walby
Wesley Odom

Wesley Odom, president, called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

Road Project: Wesley presented the plans for the Road Project at the Cemetery. Private donations have been obtained from people who have relatives buried in the cemetery. Approximately four blocks would be returned to the driving lanes, which had been installed originally in the 1920s. Three turnabouts and several concrete pads would also be installed. The board unanimously approved the project.

Fence: Wesley raised the question, "Should the Friends raise money for a nicer fence for the cemetery?" The members were in favor of this. All were in favor of a black, steel fence--similar to what is in St. Michael's Cemetery. Jim Speed, who is also the president of St. John's Cemetery, suggested masonry anchor points (i.e. at the corners and perhaps near the I Street exit. Another person suggested possibly using masonry with a stucco appearance as part of the fence with the cemetery side holding columbarium niches. Another member suggested installing gates at the Gatehouse and I Street roads, closing off the pedestrian gates, and having a security guard close the cemetery nightly and open it daily. Wesley reminded the members that the Friends only can make suggestions to St. John's Cemetery, which owns the property. Jim Speed said he would discuss these items with his board and let the Friends know what his board feels about these matters.

Irrigation: Dwight proposed that the Gatehouse be on a separate irrigation line supplying only one or two nearby spigots. He explained that way the rest of the cemetery could be on a separate line. Wesley reminded Jim that the Friends had turned over the irrigation business to SJC when Charles Greene was president. Jim said he would work on this.

Gatehouse: Dwight reported that the automatic light is out in the Gatehouse. Wesley said he would discuss with the electrician. Wesley also agreed to research where the contractor was who was installing lexan on the south side of the Gatehouse.

Dumpster: Jim explained how the dumpster had been moved outside the chain-link fence. He asked for folks' input whether it was needed at all. Dwight volunteered to move a black garbage can to the street periodically as an alternative. All members supported Jim trying to see if the small black can could suffice instead of the dumpster.

Website: Wesley reported that volunteers continue to update the website. Currently, they are inserting ownership data. Jim requested a backup file. Wesley is to provide him one.

Yard maintenance: After the Road Project is completed, Jim pledged to have the yard crew edge the roads and driving strips.

Adjournment: With no further business, Wesley adjourned the meeting at 5:35 pm.