

City of Fort Smith
Oak Cemetery Commission
Minutes of Meeting
April 8, 2010

The Oak Cemetery Commission met at noon on March 11, 2010 at the Creekmore Community Center Rose Room.

Members present: Scott Stubblefield, John Woods, Carol Barger, Jerry Akins, Gary Petersen, Barbara Coleman and Phanita Williams

Members absent: Joe Irwin, Pam Weiler, Robert Burris and Katherine Irish-Clardy

Staff present: Mike Alsup, Jim Mackey, Alison Litchy and Aaron Lee

The meeting was called to order by Scott Stubblefield. Petersen made a motion to approve the minutes as written for March 11. The motion was seconded by Coleman and unanimously approved.

Akins noted that Mike Richardson, director of Tales of the Crypt, has every character cast. He will have a dress rehearsal the Sunday before the event. Lee noted that we did receive the community page in the Times Records and that the commercials are ready to air. On Sunday April 18 there will be a live interview on the morning news for Tales of the Crypt. Claude Legris has agreed to dress in costume and do this interview. Petersen noted that he has spoke with the Times Record about doing a special article before the event. Williams noted that she will post a flyer in the lobby of the Little Theater. It was noted that the golf carts and portable toilets have been ordered. The Scottish Club has agreed to volunteer as tour guides along with the Sons and Daughters of the Confederacy.

Coleman mentioned that the memorial for the Confederate Rest is scheduled for May 16. They have notified the Fort Smith Police Department that they will be firing guns for the service. She noted that there is only one grave left in the Confederate Rest that does not have a marker. It is for the wife of a confederate. She noted that the federal government has changed their regulations and you have to have a next of kin or a historic cemetery authority to sign off on the request for a government issued marker. Barger suggested having the Friends of Oak Cemetery use their funds to buy the remaining marker. The Commission members that are involved in the Friends of Oak Cemetery were in agreement.

Alsup noted that we have two niches in the columbarium that are waiting to be engraved. The engraving company, R&M Cemetery Lettering, has been contacted. Barger noted that she will speak with Carolyn Fusche about having her husband portrayed at Tales of the Crypt once he is inurned there.

Woods mentioned the preservation workshop that is being held at Fairview Cemetery in Van Buren. The workshop is being presented by Norton Arts.

Alsup briefly mentioned other work going on with the Parks Department such as the grand re-opening of The Park at West End, the fountain re-dedication at Cisterna Park and the mowing contract for I-540 and Rogers Avenue interchange.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:27 p.m.

Scott Stubblefield, Vice-Chairman

Aaron Lee, Secretary