

Cemetery Board
February 4, 2010

A regular meeting of the Waxahachie Cemetery Board was held on Thursday, February 4, 2010, at 10:00 a.m. in the City Council Conference Room, 401 South Rogers, Waxahachie, Texas.

Members Present: Jack Curlin, Chairperson
Holly Davis
Peggy Spalding
Connie McGuire
Jerry Carter

Others Present: John Smith, Director of Parks and Recreation
Amber Villarreal, Assistant City Secretary

Others Absent: Mayor Ron Wilkinson, Council Representative

Chairman Jack Curlin called the meeting to order.

Mr. Jerry Carter moved approval of the minutes of the City Cemetery Board meeting of October 1, 2009. Ms. Connie McGuire seconded,

The vote was as follows:

Jack Curlin	Yes
Holly Davis	Yes
Peggy Spalding	Absent
Connie McGuire	Yes
Jerry Carter	Yes

The motion carried.

Parks and Recreation Director introduced Amy Hollingsworth, founder of the Light of Gabriel Foundation. Ms. Hollingsworth noted the Light of Gabriel Foundation began in September 2009 after the loss of her own son at 36 weeks gestation. He is buried in Babyland in the city cemetery. The foundation assists families with full or partial burials of their children up to the age of four (4) months. Ms. Hollingsworth noted the foundation was started so no mother has to have her child cremated or leave it with the hospital because they cannot afford to bury their child. The foundation has assisted approximately eight (8) to ten (10) families so far.

Ms. Hollingsworth noted the Light of Gabriel Foundation would like to donate five hundred (\$500) dollars towards the purchase of a monument for Babyland in the cemetery. She also asked for permission to allow the monument be named in honor of her son Gabriel.

Parks and Recreation Director John Smith expressed his concern for naming the monument after a specific individual or foundation and Mr. Carter concurred.

Ms. Connie McGuire suggested Ms. Hollingsworth look into a bench for the cemetery which can be named in honor of her son rather than naming the monument in Babyland.

It was the consensus of the board to have Mr. Smith and Ms. Hollingsworth compile a list of different style monuments and pricing for the board to review at the next meeting.

Mr. Smith noted the city installed a decorative pole sign at the entrance of the old part of the cemetery. The cost was approximately two hundred and sixty-one (\$261) dollars. He noted the

standard street signs are basically free of charge because they are made in our city sign shop. He invited the board to go look at the decorative pole sign and get an idea of what type of signs they would like to have throughout the cemetery. Mr. Smith also noted there can be a combination of standard street signs throughout the cemetery and the decorative pole signs can be placed primarily near the entrance.

Ms. McGuire asked how many signs are needed throughout the cemetery and what is the life expectancy of the decorative poles and Mr. Smith noted there are approximately fifty (50) needed and the poles should last forever as long as they aren't damaged by a car or a fallen tree.

Chairman Curlin reminded the board to review the decorative pole sign at the entrance of the cemetery.

Mr. Smith discussed possible locations for future expansion of the cemetery. He noted there is approximately 2.3 acres available adjacent to the current cemetery.

Mr. Carter suggested Mr. Smith, with the permission of the City Manager, make contact with the property owners around the cemetery and see who would be interested in selling their land for the cemetery expansion. Mr. Carter inquired about the funding for the land purchase and Mr. Smith noted City Council would have to approve the purchase and it would have to be funded through bonds or from the general fund. Perpetual care funds cannot be used to purchase land.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amber Villarreal
Assistant City Secretary