

Breezy Point Cemetery Commission

Wednesday, July 18, 2025 – 1:30 p.m.

Meeting minutes

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 PM by Chair McMonigal.

Roll Call

Present were Steve Jensen, Gary Bakken, Don Erickson Kay Spizzo, Tia McMonigal, Joe Zierden, and Deb Runksmeier. Donna Hoelke was noted as absent.

Approval Of Minutes

The minutes from April 16, 2025 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting was made by Erickson and seconded by Bakken. All were in favor.

Butterfly Release July 19th at 11:00 AM

Discussed the upcoming butterfly release event scheduled for July 19th at 11:00 AM. They confirmed with Rebecca, the butterfly lady, that 300 butterflies would be ordered, the same number as last year. The event will be conducted similarly to the previous year.

The color guard's participation was discussed, with Kay volunteering to contact them. It was noted that the event information would be sent out shortly and added to the website, including donation forms.

The committee discussed the distribution of butterflies, noting that they don't sell them individually but take donations. They recalled that last year's event went smoothly with perfect weather and a good turnout.

The need for volunteers for parking and golf cart assistance was addressed. It was suggested to have at least four people helping with parking, including two on the hill. Members discussed potential volunteers.

The committee agreed to finalize volunteer arrangements at the next meeting, scheduled for the Wednesday before the butterfly release.

New Business

There was no new business discussed.

Old Business

City Gardener Advertisement

Joe Zierden reported that the ad for a city gardener was put out, but no applications were received.

Memorial Pavers

Zierden met with a local expert, of Brent Rocks, regarding the memorial pavers. Brent recommended using standardized symbols and three lines of text with 10 characters each for durability and legibility. Brett Rocks offered to create the pavers one at a time, unlike his usual practice of waiting for 20 orders. Staff is working on getting cost estimates and will bring back more information, including a form, to the next meeting.

Columbarium Update

It was reported that there were approximately four spaces left on the backside of the old columbarium. No sales had been made for the new one, but it was expected to receive more attention during the upcoming butterfly release event.

Sod Installation

Zierden mentioned that they may still sod around the gazebo and where the old shed was located. Black dirt had been put down temporarily due to the unavailability of sod and time constraints.

Budget Discussion

The committee discussed the need to identify projects for the next year's budget. It was suggested to focus on the center island as a priority, followed by the berm. Staff was directed to research and provide options and cost estimates for these projects for the next meeting.

It was noted that the cemetery had not received a donation from the Fletcher Foundation since 2022.

Grounds And Maintenance

Staff reported that they were planning to contract with Landsberg for the rest of the year to maintain the cemetery grounds. Discussed identifying specific projects for next year and new pricing for next year's contract.

Motion to use Landsberg for the rest of this year for cemetery maintenance was made by Bakken and seconded by Erickson. The motion passed unanimously.

Commission Member Reports

A commission member suggested planning something special for the cemetery's 25th anniversary next year, possibly in conjunction with the butterfly release event. They also proposed considering a fundraiser to support the cemetery's needs.

Don Erickson verbally gave his resignation as a commission member effective after the July meeting. He will be moving out of the city and no longer be able to serve.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:11 pm

Deb Runksmeier
Deputy City Clerk