

Minutes of September 11, 2007

Veterans' Memorial Cemetery Association Meeting

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Opening Ceremonies by: Arthur J. Roy PSC (Prayer & Pledge Allegiance to Our Flag)

Call to Order and Roll Call of Members: The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. Roll Call was taken as follows: **Present** –Glenda Knowlan, Arthur Roy, Mike Clark, David Richmond, Robert Boggs, William Henshaw, Gary Laweryson, Peter Ogden **Excused** –General Libby, Kenny Ware, Kelley Wynne, Don Simoneau

Unexcused Absence –

Minutes June 2007: *Motion made, seconded and passed to accept minutes of June 2007 meeting.*

Treasurer's Report: Mike Clark

Mike Clark handed out and reviewed the Quarterly Report. He also gave a thorough report on all bonds and investments.

Motion made, accepted and passed to accept the Treasurer's Report

Comments - General Libby:

Superintendent's Report: Dave Richmond

Dave handed out and read the burial reports.

Project updates:

1. Design work has been done by Mohr & Seredin for headstone rehabilitation at the Civic Center Drive Cemetery. Five hundred or more headstones will be lifted and stabilized to prevent sinking.
2. Design work has been done for three additional columbarium niches in Caribou. Now in progress.
3. The Master Plan for Mt. Vernon Road is in progress. A surveyor has been called in to test the soil conditions in preparation for the installation of upright headstones. Burials will take place in those sections this fall.
4. Dave informed members that Paul Hunt an Eagle Scout has added a new garden at Mt. Vernon Road between sections H & I. He said it looks professionally done and enhances

the appearance of that area. Dave suggested that the Association send him a letter of appreciation for his efforts.

Motion was made, accepted and passed to have Gary Laweryson, Chairman send the Eagle Scout a letter of appreciation.

Peter also suggested that a notice placed in the local newspaper would be appropriate as well.

Dave informed members that the Elks Club is in the process of raising money for an Avenue of Flags at the Mt. Vernon Road Cemetery. They are doing fund raisers and seeking money from Elks Clubs throughout the state.

Bureau Director: Peter Ogden

Peter informed members that as soon as the layout grids are received the use of upright headstones will be starting in designated areas. Cremated remains in that area will be buried in the same grave. If they are both vets they will be allowed to have their own.

Double depth full sized burials will be put on hold until vault issues are resolved.

Peter feels that upright headstones will be better for the MVMCS. They will be easier to maintain and grass will be unable to grow over the names.

Peter stated that they will probably never expand Civic Center Drive, but there is a possibility of having above ground niches there. He will be presenting this plan to the Governor for his approval. Hopefully, he will get the funding upfront from the State and at a later date they would get reimbursed by the VA.

He stated that Springvale is unsure at the moment. Things have been slowed down, but hopefully bids can be sent out by February or March and things can get started by July.

Peter thanked the Association for all that they do for the cemetery.

Chairman: Gary Laweryson

Gary informed members that he has been assigned a commission that will be very time consuming. He stated that he will leave it up to members to decide rather or not they wish for him to continue as Chairman. His first meeting is the 18th and at that time he will know exactly just how much time will be involved in this assignment.

Gary informed member that the Young Marines are required to do community service on a monthly basis. He feels that their services could be beneficial in assisting with cemetery projects.

Dave stated that the cemetery can always use assistance and that there is plenty of opportunity for maintenance projects. He would welcome their help.

Gary suggested that members try raising funds by approaching local businesses. Many businesses in the area normally give discounts to vets and he'd be willing to bet that they would donate to the Association.

He stated that donations are dying in organizations everywhere and they are having to raise funds in other ways. This Association will need to do this as well.

Gary will try to fill the VVA vacancy and will look at other vacancies and see what he can do to fill those.

Fund Raising:

Vice Chairman's Report:

New Business

Unfinished Business:

Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Motion made, seconded and passed to adjourn meeting.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held December 11, 2007 at 9 a.m. at the VFW Hall on the Leighton Road