

St. Pauli Cemetery Association

<https://stpaulicemeterysd.org> ~ stpaulicemetery@gmail.com

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."

John 14:27

May 23, 2020 ~ 10:00 AM
Location: St. Pauli Cemetery

Due to Covid 19 the meeting was held outside at the St. Pauli Cemetery to provide social distancing.

Attendees: Ardis Dragsten, Kathy Jo (Dragsten) Haugan, Kornel Wibeto, Bryan Nelson, Wayne Kinstad, Kari Hogstad, James Thorson, Susan Thorson, Nathn Meland, James Hagen, Bill Hagen, Merlin Hagen, Lois Sundling, Judy Hagen.

Minutes

The meeting was brought to order by President Bryan Nelson at 10:03AM.

2019 Meeting Minutes

The 2019 meeting minutes were read by Kathy Haugan. Minutes were unanimously approved by those in attendance.

Treasurer Report

Treasurer report (see attached) was provided by Nathan Meland.

Motion: Wayne Kinstad made a motion to accept the treasurer report and Judy Hagen, seconded. Motion carried.

Secretary & Website Requests

Email addresses - Kathy Haugan noted that we will continue to collect email addresses to reduce mailing costs. MaryAnn Gusenius has the secretary minutes from previous years. She will be contacted to see if we can pick up the book.

Website - The proposed bylaw changes will be voted on at the annual meeting in May 2021 to ensure that there is time for people to comment on the proposed changes. (See attached). The bylaws will be posted on the website.

Kathy will update the website with photos to reflect the updates that have been made to the cemetery grounds as well as post the meeting minutes.

Old Business

Memorial Garden Update

- The cross, benches, and cornerstones have been placed. Gold nameplates have been placed on the benches.
- Wayne Kinstad will investigate purchasing a light for the cross.
- Conversation ensued regarding the cemetery grounds.

New Business

Bylaws

- The bylaws were reviewed with proposed changes by a sub-committee consisting of: Wayne Kinstad, Kathy Jo (Dragsten) Haugan, David Haugan and Heidi (Dragsten) Barcia.

Motion: Kathy Haugan made a motion that the association review the bylaws and proposed changes with a vote to commence at the May 2021 meeting. Kari Hogstad seconded the motion. Motion approved.

- Kathy Haugan will post the proposed changes on the website.

Pews

- The pews which had been stored by Burdette Faehn were auctioned off last June. The money was donated back to the cemetery association. The pews are now in the St. Pauli church structure in Webster, SD.

Elections

During the review of the bylaws it was noted that the board was set up to have five officers and two appointees. MaryAnn Gusenius's three year term has concluded. The position will not be filled as we had more than 5 board members.

One position was open. Bryan Nelson's term has expired. Vice President, Wayne Kinstad asked for nominations for the board position.

Motion: Kornel Wibeto made a motion to nominate Bryan Nelson to the board, James Thorson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Motion: Kornel Wibeto made a motion to cease the nominations, Judy Hagen seconded the motion. Bryan Nelson was unanimously voted back on the board.

Bryan Nelson resumed the meeting.

Other

Headstones

- An attempt will be made to reach out families where headstones are tipping. The board will get an estimate on how much it will cost to fix the headstones and move forward with repairs.

- Lichens are growing on some of the headstones, which have made the names hard to read. The board will research how to remove the lichens in order to clean up those headstones.

Cemetery Map

- The cemetery map that is now used was drawn in 1999 and updated in 2006. Nathan Meland will reach out to Marit (Johnson) Dunkel to see if the map is saved in an electronic format. If so, Nathan will send the electronic formatted map to Kathy Haugan to update. If there is no electronic version of the map, the board will decide how to move forward in updating the cemetery map.

Outdoor Structure

- At the 2019 meeting, members approved an outdoor structure. The board did not move forward on this initiative due to the circumstances of the steeple.

Discussion

- A company that worked on the Calvary Lutheran Church (Wallace, SD) steeple looked at the St. Pauli steeple and said it would be a minimum of \$20,000 to repair. The shingles are 30-35 years old. The steeple itself is over 100 years old. The shingles are coming off which has allowed water to collect in the roof above the bell, which is rotting the wood. The roof has aged and deteriorated to the point that it may not cost effective to repair it. Due to weather and age of the steeple the walls are not solid.
- Options were discussed. The oldest member (Ardis (Rovang) Dragsten) of the association in attendance was asked her thoughts on the issue. Although she felt it was heartbreaking to take down the steeple she felt that we need to keep in mind what will be needed 50 years from now and who will be here to do the cemetery work. The steeple could stand another 10 years or it could topple. She was concerned with who would take care of removing the steeple in ten years.

Motion: Bill Hagen made a motion to rescind the 2019 motion regarding the outdoor structure, Lois Sundling, seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- A subcommittee was formed to address the steeple and open air structure. The subcommittee is comprised of Bill Hagen, Nathan Meland, James Thorson and Bryan Nelson.

Motion: Wayne Kinstad made a motion that the subcommittee remove the steeple (leaving the bell in place and keeping the ornament from atop the steeple), choose items to build an open-air structure on the current concrete base with a \$10,000 spending limit. James Hagen, seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting concluded with the Lords Prayer.

Motion: Bill Hagen made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Lois Sundling seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 11:26AM.

Respectively Submitted by
Kathy Jo (Dragsten) Haugan, Secretary

Board meeting

The board met briefly following the association meeting.
James Thorson made a motion to maintain the current slate of officers, Wayne Kinstad seconded. Motion carried.

President – Bryan Nelson
Vice President – Wayne Kinstad
Treasurer – Nathan Meland
Secretary – Kathy Jo (Dragsten) Haugan
Member at Large – James Thorson

Maintenance was also discussed.

Additional News

- A big thank you to the local members that carry the ball when things arise such as the bell tipping, trees falling etc. We appreciate you! The cemetery looked beautiful.
- Thank you to Nathan Meland for placing the gold nameplates on the benches.
- Thank you to Ardis Dragsten, Heidi (Dragsten) Barcia, Kathy Jo (Dragsten) Haugan for painting the out-house and touching up the steeple.