

1  
2 CITY OF COOS BAY  
3 PARKS COMMISSION MINUTES OF  
4 October 13, 2016

5 **Members Present:** Ariann Lyons, Bev Meyers,  
6 Bill Otton, Carmen Mathews and Ralph Mohr.  
7 **Members Absent:** Christine Coles, Patty Scott  
8 **Staff Present:** Operations Administrator, Randy Dixon and Pam Patton  
9 **Guests Present:** Cricket Soules, Marshfield Pioneer Cemetery  
10 **Location:** Mingus Pool  
11

12 **“POOR AUDIO QUALITY”** Too much echo in the pool house.  
13

14 **1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

15 Bill Otton stepped in and conducted the meeting and called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.  
16 \*Minutes were not complete.

17 **2.** Ralph Mohr gave the commission a tour of the pool house where much of the dressing rooms  
18 and restrooms were being updated with fresh paint, new ceramic tile, repairs to the plumbing and  
19 new partitions, fixtures and accessories installed. The City project will soon be completed and  
20 Phase II is forecasted for the spring of 2017. Phase II will be downstairs where the mechanical  
21 room will be gutted with a new install of equipment. Pool tank will be drained. Weather will be  
22 a major factor with the time lines and closure of the pool.

23 **3.** Cricket Soules was introduced and asked to make her presentation. Cricket came with several  
24 handouts: The 2014 copy of the Veterans & War Memorials Grant Report; Copies of plots  
25 5,6,7,8,9,10 of Block 225. Cricket received a request to gift to the city six cemetery plots owned  
26 by the family of Judge Coke. The granddaughter of Judge Coke, Mrs. Hausler, has presented  
27 their wish to Cricket. Cricket presented some background of the family. They would also like at  
28 a later date the opportunity to have a memorial bench placed acknowledging the families.

29 Cricket mentioned that resolving one issue may necessitate considering others. Cricket brought  
30 up the question of ownership of the cemetery. Cricket handout copies of historical records of the  
31 owners of the cemetery, Odd Fellows Cemetery Corporation of Coos Bay. She felt the unclear  
32 ownership would be a concern when going for grants and licensing.

33 The third issue Cricket presented was memorial plaques in the cemetery and how it was  
34 presented in the Parks Master Plan that was adopted in 2013. She felt it needed to be defined and  
35 there was no space within the confines of the cemetery where any plaques could be placed.  
36 Could there be a moratorium placed on accepting memorial requests.

37 There was no further discussion, so Bill asked for a motion.

38 **MOTION:** Ariann motioned to make a recommendation to the council to accept the transfer  
39 of the six cemetery plots by the granddaughter of Judge Coke, Mrs. Hausler.

40 **DISCUSSION:**

41 **SECOND:** Carmen

42 **VOTE:** Ayes. Vote was unanimous and motion carried.  
43

- 44 • A discussion transpired regarding the deed and ownership being transferred from the Odd  
45 Fellows to the City of Coos Bay. Research leads up to transferring ownership but the ball  
46 was dropped in having it recorded. Randy stated he would do a memo to Rodger  
47 regarding the city's intent for a deed.

48 • The issue of the memorial plaques, should anyone make a request to have a memorial  
49 plaque placed in the cemetery, it would be tabled until a determination has been made.  
50 The Parks Commission will perform a site visit and will bring the discussion back to the  
51 table at the next scheduled meeting.

52 4. Randy gave an update on the Empire Lakes Bridge Project. ZCS would compile a scope for  
53 design and costs involved. There would need to be 32 soil samples taken and analyzed. A site  
54 survey will be needed. Randy reintroduced the commission to the Gator Bridge proposal.  
55

56 **COMMISSIONERS CLOSING COMMENTS –**

57 Bill reaffirmed that the “Parks Master Plan” is a great instrument/tool. Continue to update  
58 yourself with the timeline and priorities for grants.

59 Carmen again mentioned how excited he was to see that how things were beginning to move.

60 Ralph suggested a “doggie bag” dispenser at the post office.

61 Ariann was happy to see things happening and getting positive feedback from her clients.  
62 Ariann also applauded Cricket and Becky for doing a fantastic job with the cemetery and  
63 partnership with the City.

64 Bev made an inquiry on the John Topits fitness equipment and asked if it had been ordered. Pam  
65 responded no but will do. The ground has not been broken at the site. Bev suggested using the  
66 pillar(s) that were dismantled from Jennie’s Shoes and repurpose as curbing for the site.

67 It was mentioned

68 Our next meeting will be a walking-site inspection of the Marshfield Pioneer Cemetery.

69 There is a date conflict. We will need to move the meeting to either November 10<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup>.  
70

71 **ADJOURNMENT**

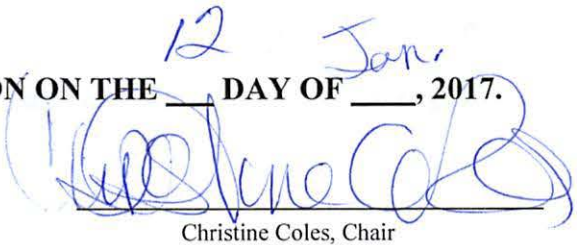
72  
73 **There being no further business to come before the Parks Commission, by**  
74 **consensus of the Parks Commission, Bill adjourned the meeting at 1:00 p.m.**  
75

76 Respectfully Submitted,

77  
78 Pamela Patton,  
79 Public Works  
80

81 **APPROVED BY THE PARKS COMMISSION ON THE 12 DAY OF Jan., 2017.**  
82  
83

84  
85  
86 Attest:   
87 Pamela Patton, Staff  
88

  
Christine Coles, Chair

The Marshfield Pioneer Cemetery Logbook that is kept at Coos Bay City Hall lists John S. Coke as the owner of six plots, Block 225, Plots 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, & 10.

No deed was recorded in Coos County records.

Coke's granddaughter is Mrs. Virginia Y. Hausler (1460 SW 66th Ave, Portland, OR 97225).

The family members, Mrs. Hausler and a cousin, would be willing to donate the plots to the City of Coos Bay. They would require that no bodies would be interred in these plots in the future. If desired, they would donate a bench with a plaque recognizing the pioneer families of Coke, Anderson, and Luse.

The plots are in a very desirable location next to the Sailors-Soldiers Monument. At present, there is no plan for how best to use this space if they become the property of the City, but it would be good to have them available for the future.

**ROW I**

Sailor-Soldier Monument	Abby Kendall
	★ Joshua Kendall
vacant	Isaac Hoppins
vacant sold (10)	vacant sold (9)
vacant sold (7)	vacant sold (8)
vacant sold (6)	vacant sold (5)
vacant	Joseph H. Richards Agnes Richards
James Bluford Davis	Joseph Richards

**BLOCK 225**

Logbook kept at Coos Bay City Hall

Logbook kept at Sunset Memorial Park

Block ~~225~~<sup>226</sup> I. O. O. F. Cemetery, Marshfield, Oregon. 122

Lot No.	NAME	No. of Days	Date of Death		
			Year	Month	Day
1	Agnes Richards	690	1914	Oct	27
2	Agnes Richards	690	1914	Oct	27
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14	John S. Davis	688	1914	Oct	13
15	John S. Davis	710	1915	May	28
16	John S. Davis	688	1914	Oct	13

10	13	12	9	8	5	4	1
15	14	11	10	7	6	3	2

Diagram of Block  
Lots 588 Ft.

Lot No.	NAME	NATIVITY	AGE	CAUSE OF DEATH	Date of Burial		
					Year	Month	Day
1	Agnes Richards	England	79	Old age	Oct	26	1914
2	John S. Davis	Texas	46	Accident	Aug	24	1914
3	John S. Davis		47		Feb	20	1914
4	John S. Davis		71		July	27	1913
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14	John S. Davis	Mass	79	Old age	Feb	7	1915
15	John S. Davis	Mass	79	Old age	Feb	6	1915
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1	Agnes Richards	690	1914	Oct	27
2	Agnes Richards	690	1914	Oct	27
3	John S. Davis		1921	Dec	7
4	John S. Davis		1921	Dec	7
5	John S. Davis		1921	Dec	7
6	John S. Davis		1921	Dec	7
7	John S. Davis		1921	Dec	7
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