

RAINIER CEMETERY DISTRICT

Special Meeting

Friday, October 6, 2023

A special meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order by Vice Board Chair David St. Onge at 5:01pm at the Cemetery office located at 24952 Alston Rd, Rainier, OR.

Call to Order and Flag Salute

Directors present: Rick Fletcher, Scott Falconer and Jim McGlone

Directors absent: None.

Staff present: Misty Holsey, Matt Fieken, Scott Toussaint, and Cyndi Warren

Public present: See attached sign in sheet.

BOARD BUSINESS:

Board vacancy to be filled.

Review applications

Monica Hackenberg drew #1 – Director Fletcher read Mrs. Hackenberg’s resume.

Mrs. Hackenberg stated that she wants to help the district and work with the rest of the board, she votes with her head not her heart.

Mrs. Hackenberg stated that she has printed and read all the SDAO rules and can abide by them.

When asked how many meetings she has attended in the last two years, she stated that she has attended most of the meetings.

When asked if she could make hard decisions, Mrs. Hackenberg stated that she would be here for the taxpayers not friendships.

When asked about the budget, Mrs. Hackenberg stated that spending needs to stay within the budget, no frivolous spending and only necessities. Paying down the debt on office/shop building was specifically mentioned.

When asked if Mrs. Hackenberg had any strong feelings about past board members or actions, she stated that no, she no strong feelings, just disappointment in lack of truth and transparency.

When asked what she thought future challenges might be for the District, Mrs. Hackenberg stated, keeping the budget under control.

Sharon Hicks drew #2 – Director McGlone read Mrs. Hicks resume.

Director Falconer stated his appreciation of Mrs. Hicks’ willingness to step up.

Mrs. Hicks stated that she has no small district experience, but she is willing to learn the SDAO rules and abide by them.

When asked if Mrs. Hicks could put aside personal feelings, she stated yes.

When asked what Mrs. Hicks knew about the cemetery district, she stated that she had read some minutes, volunteered at the Quincy cemetery (Stewart Creek) and that she just wanted to get involved.

Director Falconer stated that there has been a lot of negative publicity; Mrs. Hicks stated that they do not have TV or newspapers, so she doesn’t follow any possible drama.

When asked how many meetings she has attended in the last two years, she stated none.

When asked if Mrs. Hicks could eliminate a friend’s employment, she stated yes.

When asked about planning a district budget, Mrs. Hicks stated that you stay within the budget, keep a close eye on finances every month and balance to the penny every month.

Brian Guinther's resume was not read, as he did not make the meeting. When contacted he stated that he was working and didn't realize the meeting time and could his interview be rescheduled. Director St. Onge stated that he was disgusted by Mr. Guinther's behavior. This interview will not be rescheduled.

Mrs. Mattinen stated that she was disappointed by the procedures and that the board could have voted and appointed a board member at the last meeting.

Directors McGlone and St. Onge stated that they want to move forward this evening with the two candidates who are here tonight.

Directors Fletcher and Falconer stated that they want to wait to interview Mr. Guinther.

Public Comment:

Kathy Mattinen read a statement recommending Monica Hackenberg

Delyla Laughlin stated that she was tired of the lack of transparency from the board and to just get on with it.

Monica Hackenberg asked about the 2-2 vote for the board vacancy and if it goes to the County Commissioners, will it be at their next meeting next Wednesday? Margaret Magruder stated that would be up to the clerk who sets the agenda.

Director McGlone made a motion to nominate Monica Hackenberg and Director St. Onge seconded, no discussion. McGlone – yes, St. Onge – yes, Fletcher – no and Falconer – no, motion dies.

Director St. Onge made a motion to nominate Sharon Hicks and Director Fletcher seconded, no discussion. St. Onge – no, Fletcher – yes, Falconer – no and McGlone – no, motion dies.

It was stated that there must be a majority vote of the board to appoint a new board member to the current vacancy.

Mrs. Hicks was asked if this goes to the County Commissioners to decide would she still be interested in the position and she stated that she believes the position is worth fighting for.

The decision remains a draw.

Kathy Mattinen asked if this goes before the Commissioners would Brian Guinther still be considered as a candidate since he didn't show up for the public meeting? Mrs. Mattinen stated that she cannot believe you guys, and this is so ridiculous.

Director Falconer stated that we are guessing why Mr. Guinther isn't here; can't we make the decision at the regular meeting.

Director St. Onge stated that it is damned disrespectful that you (Rick and Scott) are wasting these people's (the public and candidates) time.

Director St. Onge moves that these two candidates go the Commissioners.

Meeting adjourned at 5:47pm

Date: _____

APPROVED