

November 30, 1982 Page 1 Editors: Marian Meyer Sherry Smith-Gonzales

GENERAL MEETING HELD - COUNTY PLAN OUTLINED - DIRECTORS ELECTED - BY-LAWS ADOPTED

The second general meeting of the Fairview Cemetery Preservation Association was held at the Santa Fe County Courthouse on October 21. Marian Meyer, who has served as temporary chairman since the organizational meeting in August 1981, presided. Sherry Smith-Gonzales was elected secretary pro-tem.****

Mrs. Donald French, president of the Santa Fe Woman's Club, thanked the group for its interest in Fairview and explained that the perpetual care trust fund is now in the legal process of being turned over to the County for administration.*****Michael Trujillo outlined a 5-year plan which is being considered by the County. It includes a renewal of the watering system, removal of dead trees, repair of the foundation of the wrought iron fence and a re-survey of the cemetery. (The last one done was in 1925). He also noted that the drilling of a well may no longer be an option because of a lack of water rights. He suggested that the association and the county work out an agreement to determine the kinds of assistance the association will offer the county.*****The by-laws written for the association by Tom Catron were considered and adopted.*****Directors elected were: Laughlin Barker, Virginia Bliss, Dr. Stanley Carr, William W. Gilbert, Sherry Smith-Gonzales, Marian Meyer, Max Middleton, James Purdy, Lucy Sanchez, Bradley M. Thomas, Jr. and Justine Thomas.

FIRST BOARD MEETING - STAN CARR ELECTED PRESIDENT - PRESTON McGEE OFFERS HIS SERVICES COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN NAMED - HISTORIC PLAQUES DELIBERATED - TREE REPLACEMENT CONSIDERED

The newly-elected direcors met November 9. Officers elected to serve for one year are Dr. Stanley Carr, President; James Purdy, Vice-president; Sherry Smith-Gonzales, Secretary and Lucy Sanchez, Treasuere. ******Attending the meeting was Preston McGee, longtime owner of Memorial Chapel and Gardens. Recently retired, McGee has generously offered his services to our association. Noting that there is probably no one in Santa Fe who is more knowledgeable and experienced in this field, the board immediately voted to elect him as a director.****The needs and priorities of the cemetery were considered and it was agreed that discussions with the county should be delayed until after the new commissioners assume office in January. Replacement of the 18 large dead trees by the association was discussed and tentatively planned for spring or when the county removes them. ******Committee chairmen were named. Under the by-laws, the treasurer is also Finance Chairman, so Lucy Sanchez assumes that postion. Max Middleton, who initiated the rodent control program, will continue as Rodent Control Chairman. (Note: When the prairie dogs emerge from hibernation in the spring, Middleton could use some volunteer helpers). The board agreed that the three committees of Grounds, Clean-up and Memorial Markers could be grouped together, which Preston McGee agreed to head. Marian Meyer was named chairman of the Liaison Committee to Santa Fe County.*****The board voted to proceed with the installation of possibly two historical plaques as soon as it is practical. Two other groups are involved in this effort. The Historic Santa Fe Foundation voted a year ago that Fairview is worthy of historic preservation and is eligible for its logo shield. However, the owner of the property being plaqued pays for the marker, so it is likely that our association will assume the cost. In addition, the board suggested that an explanatory plaque giving a brief history of the cemetery be installed along with the Foundation shield. Since our board meeting, the Santa Fe Historical Society (which underwrote the initial expense of organizing our preservation association) has been asked to consider the possibility of paying for the historical explanatory plaque.***** The Spring Clean-up is tentatively scheduled for the month before Memorial Day.

MESSAGES FROM STAN CARR AND PRESTON McGEE

From the President:

"Having lived in Santa Fe my entire life, I can well remember how beautiful Fairview Cemetery used to be. It is my deepest hope that, through mutual understanding and effort between our committee and Santa Fe County officials, we will be able to justify the restoration of Fairview to its former beauty, gain the historic recognition it deserves and make it a worthy resting place for our many relatives and friends interred there. The Fairview Cemetery Preservation Association has had a successful first year. The going has been slow at times but a great deal has been accomplished. Let's make our second year more successful and rewarding as we work towards our goal".

From Preston McGee, Chairman of Grounds, Clean-up

"The condition and upkeep of Fairview Cemetery has been of deep concern not only to families having loved ones interred there, but to the community as a whole. My experience the past 28 years in the operation of a cemetery has given me a good working idea of what is needed to upgrade Fairview at the present time, and to

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help with problems which may occur in the future. I feel that if we can assist the County by giving some personal supervision in the general maintenance and day-by-day upkeep, within one year we will see a great deal of improvement. I can think of no other project that could give me more satisfaction than working for Fairview, its families and its preservation in the community".

A NOTE FROM MARIAN MEYER

It is with a good deal of satisfaction that I turn over the administration of the association into the capable hands of the new officers. My 14 month stint as "temporary" chairman was unplanned and unexpected; however, it turned into a rewarding experience. While we waited for the ownership of the cemetery to be resolved, several things were accomplished: 200 names were compiled for a potential membership list, the preservation fund of \$4000 was begun and the first spring clean-up was initiated. In addition, we now have on file copies of the interment, purchase and section records of the cemetery. They are available for research at the History Library at the Museum of New Mexico (next door to the Public Library). This was made possible by Eppie Romero at the County Manager's office and Sherry Smith-Gonzales at the History Library. These are duplicates of the records which were commissioned by the Woman's Club from the old books and papers at the time of the transfer of the cemetery to the county in 1978. There are some gaps in the records, but I hope to work on that as I return to the research that got me into all of this originally. It has been a pleasure to renew acquaintances with many of you and to meet others who have family at Fairview. Remember, if you have any old information or photographs which would be of interest in a history of Fairview, I would appreciate having xerox copies.

FINANCES AND FUNDRAISING

A total of \$4415.00 was given by 64 contributors during the past year in the following amounts:

\$230.00 - 1 \$100.00 - 12 \$35.00 - 2 \$25.00 - 19 \$15.00 - 4 \$600.00 - 1 50.00 - 7 30.00 - 1 20.00 - 7 300.00 - 2 200.00 - 3

Arthur W. Floersheim

The list of contributors was as follows:

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Of these contributions, 52 were made in 1981, 12 were made in 1982.

FROM THE FINANCE CHAIRMAN

Lucy Salazar Sanchez, Treasurer and Finance Chairman, is a long-time Santa Fean whose family operated "Salazar's", that wonderful old Spanish restaurant on College Street for many years. Lucy says:

"A good start has been made in the preservation fund, but a continuing effort will be necessary if we are to sucessfully restore Fairview and show the community that we are caring for our loved ones. Rather than setting an annual membership fee, the board decided to leave it up to the individual. A contribution of any amount will entitle the donor to a year's membership in the association. We solicit your support. For your convenience, a form is provided below".

Please send it to P. O. Box 5958, Santa Fe, NM 87501.
My contribution of to the Fairview Cemetery Preservation Association is enclosed. I understand this entitles me to one year's membership.
I do not wish to join at this time, but I would like to remain on the mailing list
I do not wish to be on the mailing list.
I am willing to help on one of the following committees:
Clean-upGroundsMemorial MarkersRodent Control
Please correct my mailing address