

Milwaukie Pioneer Cemetery Assoc. Inc.

Milwaukie Pioneer Cemetery Association, Inc. provides for restoration projects and ongoing maintenance of the cemetery and helps to sustain a part of the history of the City of Milwaukie's people into the future.

Newsletter

www.milwpioneercem.org

Spring/Summer, 2015



Four Additional Veterans' Markers Have Been Installed...

Early this year Waverley Country Club installed 4 new veteran markers for previously unmarked graves... Carolyn Arntson and Randy Fletcher have nearly completed the research they can do for new markers, making 9 new installs in total.

Until or unless more information becomes available, it appears this will be the entirety of new markers at this time.

We cannot thank the crew that made this happen enough and the new markers were flagged as per all others this Memorial Day weekend. They are newer looking than all the others, but it is nice to have them and future generations will appreciate the efforts for years to come. (See photos on 2nd page)

Clean-up Get-Togethers at Milwaukie Pioneer Cemetery Scheduled, 2015...

(weather permitting)

Please check

www.MilwPioneerCem.org

For scheduled clean-up days...

Hope to see everyone turn-out!

MARK YOU CALENDARS

we will be celebrating the research work and installation of the 9 new Veterans markers on June 20th, 10:00AM

parking is available at the Mill End Store & a shuttle van will be on hand for those with the need for same...

Youth groups, American Heritage Girls and Boy Scout Troop #143, were on hand this Memorial Day weekend to help place flags by vet's' graves and to do the Memorial Day flag ceremonies.

Thank You All!!!



Special Thanks also to Jerry Craig, American Legion Post #180 for providing bugle services for the flag ceremonies.

Please help our community keep an eye on our cemetery treasure...

we had the trash can taken and there was some minor vandalism in the week or two before Memorial Day. No markers were damaged and all was easily put to rights, but it could

have been a lot worse. If you see anything, contact the Milw. Police.

Current Board of Directors:

- Mark Neubauer—Trustee & President 503-997-9495
- Dolly Macken-Hambright—Sec/Treas & Trustee 503-659-7582
- J.R. Hambright—Cemetery Consultant 503-659-7582
- Jim Wiley, Jr.—Trustee & Board Member 503-653-1025
- Keith Neubauer—City Liaison 503-659-8087
- Carol Wiley—Honorary Trustee 503-654-7034



Four new veterans' markers L-R: Boyer, George S.A., Pennsylvania Infantry; Burns, John F., New York Infantry; Lockhart, William A., Indiana Cavalry; and Wills, George W. Wills, Oregon Mounted Volunteers.

Proposed Rebuild of SE 17th Ave. ... The Cemetery has been informed that the city/ODOT, and likely others, have gotten a grant to finish the project in the coming year or so (some \$3M) and have been proceeding with the work, including hiring consultants, survey work, an archaeological survey just outside the cemetery fencing (which has been done) and drawings of the proposal (see the City's web-site).

We, and apparently others, advanced the proposal that instead of using SE 17th for bikes, a much safer and more attractive route which would provide better connectivity between the Spring Water and the Trolley Trail through Milwaukie Riverfront Park, should be McBrod Ave. Apparently this suggestion was never considered by the city or ODOT, leaving just the SE 17th Ave. build-out as the only alternative.

One of the major problems is the loss of cemetery parking along SE 17th Ave. for which the city issued to the cemetery a special parking permit several years ago allowing the blocking of bike lanes during clean-up days and over Memorial Day weekend. This parking is used not only by the aforementioned but also provides safer ingress and egress for visitors, many of whom have mobility issues or are carrying tools and items used for clean-up and Memorial Day weekend observances. The city has made overtures to the two businesses located on either side of SE Milport on the East side of SE 17th, one of which has tentatively agreed to the cemetery's use of their parking lot on weekends. While this is most generous of this business, this solution does not address the problems surrounding ADA accessibility or safe crossing of SE 17th Ave. It is anticipated that SE 17th, especially where it connects with Highway 224, will become much busier as the anticipated 64 light rail trains through Milwaukie become reality. This will likely increase some of the current, cut-through traffic into downtown Milwaukie to circumvent downtown altogether when wanting to access McLoughlin Bv. or even downtown, especially when heading south. Provisions for any safe crossing will require crosswalks and pedestrian signals, which will add significantly to the expense of this project, and still fails to address ADA requirements for folks getting into the cemetery. Also, without some provision for perpetual encumbrance of the properties proposed for cemetery parking, and should this business property be sold, there is no guarantee that new owners would honor the agreement and therefore this might only be a stop-gap solution at best, thus very much isolating the cemetery from visitors and workers from that time on.

Other issues raised during discussions included the safety of the proposed retaining wall visually blocking the sight line for any vehicles needing to back out of the driveway, not only siting down the bike lane in both directions, but also for gaining street access, especially with increased SE 17th Ave. traffic. The cemetery has, and likely will continue to have, the need for delivery trucks and other larger vehicles inside the double gates that are necessary for marker installations and repairs, besides just the usual pickups and cars for visitors and workers.

As of most recent information, the initially proposed changes to the current driveway configuration, i.e. cutting back the slope into the cemetery grounds along the center wide pathway, in order to keep it from becoming too steep once the bike path retaining wall is installed, which would have been detrimental to the cemetery grounds as there appear to be graves right up to the slope-top on either side of the driveway gates now, have been removed from the project. (Since the county lost the actual burial book we have no idea if there might be graves into the driveway area, but it appears that many are very close.)

Currently, this project is slated to begin construction in 2016. If more folks were to make inquiries to the City, we might at least be able to retain the parking along the cemetery frontage...

Please remember annual dues!!!

Annual dues \$10/YEAR

Lifetime membership \$200

**make check payable to, and mail to:
Milwaukie Pioneer Cemetery Assoc.**

**12258 SE Grove Lp.
Milwaukie, OR 97222-2981**

**If you have paid
for 2015,
Thanks!**