

April 19, 1979

Dear Concerned Citizen for Washi on Cemetery Care, Inc.:

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GOOD NEWS AT WASHINGTON CEMETERY!

The Board of Directors has voted to launch the project of cleaning and maintaining the cemetery on a permanent basis. Written bids were secured from three mowing contractors. Five other contractors were asked to bid but they either were not equipped to handle the job or were not interested. All three bids were close and the job was given to Mr. James Hobby, who maintains Glendale Cemetery and was highly recommended to us by the Glendale Cemetery Ass'n. Mr. Hobby began work in the cemetery April 16th (Monday after Easter). Surely everyone will want to visit the cemetery and watch the progress.

Now to the matter of dollars and cents -

Cost of getting the cemetery in good condition the first time is \$7,100 and \$700 to \$800 per cutting thereafter. Total cost for the first year will amount to \$14,000 to \$15,000, which sounds like a lot of money but considering the amount of work to be done on 18 acres of gravesites, the Board feels it is a fair price. The second year and thereafter the maintenance cost will be \$7,000 to \$8,000 (at today's prices) for ten cuttings per year. This will include individual plot cleaning on 1,250 plots plus the Strangers' Rest area. Considering the cost of \$7.50 to \$10 per cutting some of you have been paying for care of your individual plot, the Board feels the contract we have for ten cuttings per year is very reasonable.

We are pleased to report approximately \$11,000 has been received in donations since the Oct. meeting when we voted to start building a fund for maintenance now and an endowment fund for the future. As you can see, we need more money to cover cost of the first year's maintenance.

PLEA FOR DONATIONS - HELP!

After four years, we have the ball rolling toward perpetual care. It is now up to each and everyone of us to help make our goal a reality. The annual \$10 membership donation from each person contacted will not completely take care of annual maintenance and we have set a goal of \$100,000 to yield sufficient interest for continued care when we are no longer around. If you have already donated and wish to give more, we are grateful for both. If you have not given yet, will you please help. Let's all work together.

The March 17th clean-up day was a success with a very good turnout in spite of 50% chance of rain predicted. Many plots were cleaned and much interest was generated.

The attorney we previously engaged has notified us that he finds it necessary to withdraw his services due to a case-overload. We are once again seeking the services of an attorney but in the meantime, we have secured a signed agreement from Mr. W. L. Noland, stating he has no objection to nor will he interfere with any cleaning, beautifying or maintenance work performed by our organization and that he understands the efforts of our organization are entirely voluntary.

"WASHINGTON CEMETERY BOOK OF RECORDS" has been compiled by C. Ken Sheffield, one of our members. Copies have been given to Clayton Library, the Texas Room at the downtown library, First Evangelical Church and the Mormon Church Genealogical Library, Salt Lake City, Utah. This was a tremendous task and we are grateful to Ken for this great accomplishment.

Our appreciation to a good friend who has agreed to donate nine loads of material to repair our roadways. Also to Mr. Guy Moss, who bulldozed the back of the cemetery previously and who will now furnish an operator and machine to spread the roadway material. Our sincere thanks to these gentlemen for their great generosity in solving our roadway problem.

Another good friend has donated his services in painting the sign to be erected at the front of the gravesites. We are most grateful to this gentleman for making this sign available to us. Also, our thanks to Messrs. W. H. Murray and L. R. Murray, Jr., of Industrial Stamp & Graphics for rubber stamps supplied us.

The researching and writing of the history necessary for application to have the cemetery declared a historical site is still underway. This will be completed as soon as possible.

If anyone knows of relatives or descendants of persons buried on your family plot or adjoining plots that we do not know about, please contact Mildred Daly at 668-8689 or Lois King at 682-3375. The more people involved, the easier the task.

MAKE 1979 A "BE GOOD TO WASHINGTON CEMETERY YEAR." GIVE YOUR TAX-FREE DONATIONS TO THE CEMETERY. Next meeting date is scheduled for Sept. You will be notified of exact date.

Yours very truly,
CONCERNED CITIZENS FOR WASHINGTON CEMETERY CARE, INC.

Herman Lamball, President

Clip and send with your check

Make check payable to: CONCERNED CITIZENS FOR WASHINGTON CEMETERY CARE, INC.

Mail to: J. C. PETTY, 1816 Milford, Houston, Tx. 77098

Name _____ Amount of membership donation \$ _____
Address _____ Amount of special donation \$ _____