I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

III. 30 Minute Citizen Comment Period:

Each speaker will be provided up to three minutes to speak. Persons wishing to participate (speak) during the Citizen Comment portion of the meeting virtually must email jcase@sanmarcostx.gov prior to 12:00 p.m. the day of the meeting. A call-in number/link will be provided for participation. Written comments can also be submitted to jcase@sanmarcostx.gov for distribution to the board prior to the meeting. Those wishing to speak in person may sign up in person on the day of the meeting. Each speaker signed up prior to the meeting being called to order will be called in the order in which they signed-up.

PRESENTATION

1. Receive a Staff presentation of the Cemetery Commission Bylaws.

MINUTES

2. Consider approval, by motion, of the February 28, 2024, regular meeting minutes.

DISCUSSION

3. Hold discussion regarding other materials as concrete replacement for monument foundations.

ACTION

4. Discuss and consider nominations and the selection for the position of Chair of the Cemetery Commission.

5. Discuss and consider nominations and the selection for the position of Vice-Chair of the Cemetery Commission.
REPORTS

6. Receive a brief report from scheduled commissioners who checked the condition of the cemetery.

7. Receive a brief staff report on the status of the cemetery expansion project.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

8. Commission Members may provide requests for discussion items for a future agenda in accordance with the board’s approved bylaws. *No further discussion will be held related to topics proposed until they are posted on a future agenda in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act.*

IV. Question and Answer Session with Press and Public.
This is an opportunity for the Press and Public to ask questions related to items on this agenda.

V. Adjournment

Notice of Assistance at the Public Meetings

The City of San Marcos is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice at least 2 days (48 hours) before the meeting date. Individuals who require auxiliary aids and services for this meeting should contact the City of San Marcos ADA Coordinator at 512-393-8000 (voice) or call Texas Relay Service (TRS) by dialing 7-1-1. Requests can also be faxed to 855-461-6674 or sent by e-mail to ADArequest@sanmarcostx.gov.

For more information on the Cemetery Commission, please contact the Parks and Recreation Department at parksinfo@sanmarcostx.gov.
City of San Marcos
Regular Meeting Minutes
Cemetery Commission
February 28, 2024, 4:00 pm

I. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 4:04 pm by Chair Patsy Pohl.

II. Roll Call

Commissioners Present
Clay Sullivan
Fay Cliett Gillham
Gina Eben
Tim Bauerkemper
Patsy Pohl
Cindy Casparis

Commissioners Absent
Brenda Butler

Staff Present
Jamie Lee Case, Director
Jessica Ramos, Assistant Director
Valerie Valdez, Administrative Coordinator

III. 30 Minute Citizen Comment Period: Each speaker signed up prior to the meeting being called to order will be called in the order in which they signed-up. Each speaker will be provided up to three minutes to speak. Persons wishing to participate (speak) during the Citizen Comment portion of the meeting must email jcase@sanmarcostx.gov prior to 12:00 p.m. the day of the meeting. A call-in number/link will be provided for participation. Written comments can also be submitted to jcase@sanmarcostx.gov for distribution to the board prior to the meeting.

- Rabbi Ari Weingarten stated he would like to speak during the discussion item.

MINUTES

1. Consider approval, by motion, of the January 24, 2024, regular meeting minutes.

Fay Cliett Gillham stated she would like to add “30 years” instead of “many times” and “no other applicant replied to the RFQ (request for quote).”

A motion was made by Fay Cliett Gillham, seconded by Gina Eben, to approve the January 24, 2024, regular meeting minutes as amended.

The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 6 - Clay Sullivan, Fay Cliett Gillham, Gina Eben, Tim Bauerkemper, Patsy Pohl, Cindy Casparis

Against: 0 -
ACTION

2. Consider approval of Recommendation Resolution 2024-01RR recommending the amendment of Section 22.010 (f) to allow the number of cremains to be placed in a columbarium niche based on the manufacturer’s intended design.

A motion was made by Tim Bauerkemper, seconded by Fay Cliett Gillham, to approve the Recommendation Resolution 2024-01RR recommending the amendment of Section 22.010 (f) to allow the number of cremains to be placed in a columbarium niche based on the manufacturer's intended design.

The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 6 - Clay Sullivan, Fay Cliett Gillham, Gina Eben, Tim Bauerkemper, Patsy Pohl, Cindy Casparis

Against: 0 -

Absent: 1 - Brenda Butler

3. Consider approval of the Tours of the Cemetery hosted by the Hays County Historical Commission and the Friends of the Cemetery.

Fay Cliett Gillham stated the tours are a wonderful thing that attracts the best kind of attention. She stated she is very much in favor of this item. Gene Bagwell asked when the tour dates are. Fay Cliett Gillham stated the tours will be held on the third weekend in October.

A motion was made by Gina Eben, seconded by Clay Sullivan, to approve the Tours of the Cemetery hosted by the Hays County Historical Commission and the Friends of the Cemetery.

The motion carried by the following vote:

For: 6 - Clay Sullivan, Fay Cliett Gillham, Gina Eben, Tim Bauerkemper, Patsy Pohl, Cindy Casparis

Against: 0 -

Absent: 1 - Brenda Butler
DISCUSSION

4. Hold discussion regarding the request to establish a Jewish area in the cemetery.

Jamie Lee Case gave the commissioners an overview of previous meeting minutes regarding Mr. David Sergi and Rabbi Ari’s request for a Jewish section in the cemetery. She read through the Cemetery Commission meeting minutes from February and October 2020. Mr. Sergi and Rabbi Ari are requesting a Jewish section of the cemetery that would include 50-100 plots. The synagogue will pay or raise funds to purchase the plots. The section would include the ritually pure area for the Jewish members and a section adjacent for non-Jewish family members. The ritually pure area would have vegetation around it to delineate the section from the rest of the cemetery. Gene Bagwell and Mr. Sergi noted several cemeteries in Austin and San Antonio that have similar designs. Cindy Casparis asked if the city and the synagogue would create an agreement for the payment and maintenance of the plots and vegetation. Jamie Lee stated an agreement between the city and the synagogue would be made. Gene Bagwell suggested placing the Jewish burial site in a corner space so they would only have to delineate two sides instead of four. The commissioners agreed that Jamie Lee should speak with the city council members to find out if they would approve of an agreement to sale. This would allow the city and the synagogue to create a contractual agreement. If council agrees to move forward, staff would need to make plans in the design phase for the cemetery expansion.

REPORTS

5. Receive a brief report from scheduled commissioners who checked the condition of the cemetery and update the schedule.

Clay Sullivan stated the cemetery is very green and pretty. He noted a broken water line in the Tower Addition. He stated shrubs have been replaced in the entryway. Gene Bagwell spoke to Alex Von Rosenberg, the city horticulturist. She told him the plants she will place in the entrance of the cemetery are green. She suggested the Mountain Laurel Garden Club continue to place artificial flowers in the flower bed if they want a pop of color. Gina Eben stated she would contact the garden club for that request.

6. Receive a brief staff report on the status of the cemetery expansion project.

Bert Stratemann explained the expansion consist of a full area survey. Jamie Lee stated construction funds are coming from the Fiscal Year 2026 budget. She stated they are 90% through the design phase. Lots will be available for sell in two years or more.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

7. Commission Members may provide requests for discussion items for a future agenda in accordance with the board’s approved bylaws. No further discussion will be held related to topics proposed until they are posted on a future agenda in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act.

• Gene Bagwell noted a resolution recommendation regarding approved monument materials.
• Vote for Chair and Vice Chair

IV. Question and Answer Session with Press and Public.  
*This is an opportunity for the Press and Public to ask questions related to items on this agenda.*

• No were no questions from the Press or Public.

V. Adjournment

Cindy Casparis moved to adjourn at 5:10PM. Tim Bauerkemper seconded the motion.

________________________________________________________  ____________________________________________________
Cemetery Commission Chair                                           Staff Liaison
FW: [EXTERNAL] Monugrid foundation

Gene Bagwell <bagwellg@austin.rr.com>
Thu, 2/29/2024 5:03 AM
To: Valdez, Valerie <VValdez@sanmarcostx.gov>

2 attachments (6 MB)
MonuGrid.pdf, Failed concrete foundation.jpg;

From: McElland, Scott (mailto:SMcElland@sanmarcostx.gov)
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 1:50 PM
To: bagwellg@austin.rr.com
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Monugrid foundation

City of Scott McElland
San Marcos Cemetery
630 E. Hopkins St, San Marcos, TX 78666
512-748-9671
Please take a moment to complete the City of San Marcos Customer Satisfaction Survey.

From: Clinton Hajek <chajek@tricountygsm.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 2:23 PM
To: McElland, Scott <SMcElland@sanmarcostx.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Monugrid foundation

Good afternoon Scott,

As far as the foundation, have you guys ever considered an alternative to concrete foundations? We started our company on the restoration side of the business. We found ourselves often repairing and re-leveling concrete foundations which were now leaning or had fallen over. In our experience we believe concrete foundations fail over time and actually speed up the shifting and leaning of stones by adding additional weight to the area/stone.

We have never had an issue with any of our stones leaning or shifting since using MonuGrid. I have attached a brochure explaining what MonuGrid is and the reasons MonuGrid is superior to the old school ways of inadequate concrete foundations.

We understand that in the end it is a city cemetery and we will go by your rules. We just wanted the city to be educated about the process and to know there are better solutions than concrete when setting stones in a cemetery. If you guys would allow us to use Monugrid we would guarantee our foundation. If for any reason the stone does begin to shift or lean, we will come back out and level at no charge to the city or customer. We would make the MonuGrid foundation the same size as the concrete foundation in your rules.

Please see attached PDF explaining MonuGrid and its benefits. I also attached a photograph of a concrete foundation, which even contained rebar, that failed. We have had to replace hundreds of concrete foundations set with concrete. Once educated many cemeteries are now utilizing MonuGrid. We currently have a contact with the City of Austin, who has accepted MonuGrid as an alternative to concrete foundations in many instances.

I would be more than willing to meet with anyone at the city who would like to hear more about the benefits and use of MonuGrid as our headstone setting foundations.

Please feel free to call me with any questions or concerns about MonuGrid or anything else.

Respectfully,

Clinton Hajek (owner)
Tri-County Monuments
office: 830-885-2261
cell: 210-422-7096
www.tricountygsm.com

Proud members of:

- Monuments Builders of North America
- Southern Monument Builders Association
- Association for Gravestone Studies
- New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce
- Cemetery Conservators for United Standards
- Texas Cemetery & Crematory Association

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IOWAT GROUP INC

Cemetery Solutions

Featuring MonuGrid & RigidLawn
Why Replace Concrete?

- The heavy combined weight of the concrete and monument put pressure on native soils.

- Concrete involves lots of planning and time spent waiting for the mixture to set and dry.

- Sealed surfaces are subject to cracking during the freeze-and-thaw cycle—which causes heaving and settling of the concrete.

- The intense planning, labour and material costs of concrete can be onerous to cemeteries keeping a tighter budget.
The Art & Science Of MonuGrid

Engineers we work with say that using MonuGrid™ is similar in concept to using a snowshoe. A snowshoe’s light materials make it easy to walk around, and they’re solid enough to spread the weight over a larger surface so that you can stay on the surface effortlessly. MonuGrid does exactly the same to a monument or flat marker, instantly. Spreading weight and reducing the stresses on the soil is exactly what you need to keep a monument of any size from shifting.
Made From 100% LDPE Recycled Plastic
LDPE Plastic is the most flexible in all temperatures, it’s therefore the perfect plastic for MonuGrid. Its shape allows it to stay malleable from -22°C to 85°C on virtually all types of soil. Plus, it will never decompose or cause any harm to the environment. Unlike concrete.

Patented Cellular Confinement System
widely used in construction for erosion control, soil stabilization on flat ground and steep slopes, structural reinforcement for load support and earth retention.

Installs In 4 Simple Steps
With a few tools—a shovel, a rake and a level—MonuGrid installs easily in less than 30 minutes. No drying or waiting time needed.

10 Year Limited Warranty
We’re so confident in MonuGrid performing better than concrete that we include a complimentary 10 years of peace-of-mind.
Here’s How to Install MonuGrid

Step 1  Remove the leaning or fallen monument and excavate the old foundation deep enough so that MonuGrid can be installed at the same level as the grass.

Step 2  After levelling the excavated surface, install the appropriate amount of MonuGrid pieces required and check with a level again.

Step 3  Fill MonuGrid pieces to the top of the cells with clear/clean crushed stone. Clear/clean crushed stone is recommended for best performance and is easily found commonly at most landscaping and stone yards.

Step 4  Once you’ve filled the MonuGrid system with clear/clean crushed stone, reinstall the monument at the centre, and decorate the edges with grass or flowers. You’re done!
Quick & Easy Restorations
Perfect For Flat Markers
We Have More Cemetery Solutions!

- Permeable access roads
- RigidLawn Ground Protection (plywood replacement)
- Soft-shoulder reinforcement
- Tree-root protection
Spring time means soft wet grounds, in one of the busiest season for cemeteries. Digging and landscaping equipment damage the lawns regularly, often leaving guests walking in mud.

Methods like rubber/plastic mats and plywood are not only heavy and difficult to carry, they also have a tendency of breaking. Buying plywood every year is now a thing of the past.

RigidLawn weighs less than 3 pounds and one person can handle the task effortlessly. Because it detaches easily into 20” x 20” tiles it makes it possible for you to use it for other purposes simultaneously. For example, under outriggers. The best part is that it’s reusable year after year. RigidLawn is the lightest and most flexible ground protection system you can invest in today.
Specifications

**Weight Handling:** Up to 1000t/M2 (filled)

**MonuGrid Size:** 500mm x 500mm x 50mm

**RigidLawn Size:** 500mm x 500mm x 30mm

**Detail:** 49 cells of 70mm x 70mm per tile

**Wall Thickness:** 3mm

**MonuGrid Weight:** 1.6 kg per tile

**RigidLawn Weight:** 1.1 kg per tile

**Material:** LDP - Low Density Polyethylene, 100% recycled, withstands frost and UV radiation

**Natural Stability:** resists extreme temperatures -22°C to 85°C