

Birge Fountain Committee
September 14, 2011 meeting minutes (draft)

1. Call to order: Chairman Dalee called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.
2. Roll Call: Members present: Lukett, Dalee, Loomer, Binnie and Nosek.
3. Approval of Minutes: It was moved by Nosek, seconded by Loomer to approve the June 1 minutes. Motion passed unanimously.
4. Election of officers: Nosek nominated Luckett for chairman, seconded by Loomer. Motion passed unanimously.
Binnie nominated Dalee for vice-chair, seconded by Loomer. Motion passed unanimously.
Luckett nominated Nosek for secretary/treasurer, seconded by Binnie. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Fountain Maintenance:

It was moved by Luckett, seconded by Loomer that, in behalf of the committee, Dalee and Nosek should compile a list of maintenance issues regarding the Fountain and its environment that need be addressed and to submit it to chairman Luckett. Luckett will in turn solicit from Chuck Nass a work list currently performed by his department for the fountain. Both lists will be submitted by Oct.1 so they can be discussed at the next Birge Fountain Committee meeting in mid-Oct., thus coinciding with the traditional time for shutting down the fountain's waterworks and in preparation for its winter retirement.

6. Discussion and approval of cost and options of finishing the bronze statues:

Nosek explained that he received two proposals to finish the bronze castings, the one task yet to accomplish in this year's fountain refurbishment project. Both proposals called for cleaning the figures, chemical patina of certain portions of them and lastly waxing them to help preserve their resultant appearance. Neither artist advised polishing the bronze figures because of the time consuming nature of the task, its correspondingly high cost and, in their opinion, negligible benefit. The quote from Vanguard Studios was for \$8,500. The second quote from Tom Queoff Studios was for \$400-\$600. The vast disparity was because Mr. Queoff's bid was predicated on 4-5 city workers/volunteers performing most of the labor under his direction.

Vanguard would perform the first yearly maintenance re-waxing next year for \$1600. After that, they were willing to train city personnel and volunteers to perform the task or be contracted again itself. Queoff said he would expect city personnel/volunteers to be able to do the task next year as a result of his training this year.

After discussing the following options;

1. not treating the statues at all, allowing them to oxidize naturally,
 2. treating portions of them and allowing the remaining parts to oxidize,
 3. treating them as per the bids or
 4. doing #3 and paying the additional costs associated with polishing too,
- the Committee, following a motion by Loomer, seconded by Dalee, voted unanimously to accept option #3 and selected Tom Queoff to perform the services for a cost not to exceed \$1,200 (his bid cost plus unforeseen material costs that Queoff might not have included in his bid). Nosek was instructed to contact him and arrange an early Oct. start date that Queoff said he thought he could meet and which would allow completion before cold weather would preclude completion this year.

7. Fountain Surveillance:

Luckett explained the current surveillance camera is ineffective by current standards for clarity and range. He discussed various improved styles ranging in costs from \$350- \$3,000. All these cameras would be compatible with

the existing housing and current recording equipment. It was moved by Nosek and seconded by Loomer to have Lockett purchase the \$300 model, which he felt would do the job well.

8. Fountain Lighting:

Lockett explained that the fountain currently uses 11, 250 watt submersible lamps in warm weather and 5 dry lamps in the winter.

He recommended trying energy saving LED light fixtures. Although the initial cost is high - \$123 each - the cost savings are great over the long life of the bulb. Also, the lights would not have to be seasonally switched. After some discussion, the Committee unanimously approved of buying one lamp in order to test it for its color quality and effectiveness following a motion for same made by Binnie and seconded by Loomer.

9. Future Agenda Items: The next meeting in mid Oct. will have maintenance needs as an item.

Respectfully submitted,

Roy Nosek, secretary