

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREATING) RESOLUTION NO. 93-1881A
A PIONEER CEMETERIES STUDY)
COMMITTEE) Introduced by Councilor
) Sandi Hansen

WHEREAS, Metro will assume management of Pioneer Cemeteries in Multnomah County effective January 1, 1994; and

WHEREAS, Pioneer Cemeteries provide important open space and contribute to the region's cultural resources and heritage; and

WHEREAS, Pioneer Cemeteries require a different level of security and maintenance than either passive open spaces or developed parks; and

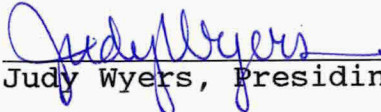
WHEREAS, Funds used to maintain Pioneer Cemeteries could be used for other public purposes if not needed for cemetery security and maintenance; and

WHEREAS, The Metro Council wants to determine whether Pioneer Cemeteries could be funded and operated without direct government assistance; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED,

That the Metro Council creates a Pioneer Cemeteries Study Committee, with the charge and duration as stated in Exhibit A. Members shall be appointed by the Executive Officer in consultation with Councilor Hansen, and shall be subject to Council approval through adoption of a separate resolution.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this 23rd day of December, 1993.



Judy Wyers, Presiding Officer

PIONEER CEMETERIES STUDY COMMITTEE

Charge and Duration

The Pioneer Cemeteries Study Committee shall begin not later than March 15, 1994, and conclude its work by September 15, 1994. It shall report periodically to the Council Committee with oversight responsibility for regional parks and Pioneer Cemeteries, and shall present a written and oral report to the Council upon completion of its work. The report shall include recommendations for implementing the Committee's findings, in each of the study areas listed below.

The charge of the Pioneer Cemeteries Study Committee shall be as follows:

- Explore alternatives to public management of Pioneer Cemeteries in Multnomah County and throughout the Metro area.
- Determine whether there are Pioneer Cemeteries in the Metro area which are not publicly operated. If so, determine whether these cemeteries would benefit by inclusion in a private or non-profit management structure, and establish criteria for inclusion.
- Explore methods of funding the ongoing operations and maintenance of Pioneer Cemeteries.
- Recommend a method for establishing a management system to operate and maintain Pioneer Cemeteries.

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1. That the Metro Council creates a Pioneer Cemeteries Study Committee, with the charge and duration as stated in Exhibit A. Members shall be appointed by the Executive Officer in consultation with Councilor Hansen, and shall be subject to Council approval through adoption of a separate resolution.

~~2. That the membership of the Pioneer Cemeteries Study Committee be as stated in Exhibit B.~~

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this _____ day of _____, 1993.

Judy Wyers, Presiding Officer

PIONEER CEMETERIES STUDY COMMITTEE

Charge and Duration

The Pioneer Cemeteries Study Committee shall ~~exist through June 30, begin not later than March 15, 1994, and conclude its work by September 15, 1994.~~ It shall report periodically to the Council Committee with oversight responsibility for regional parks and Pioneer Cemeteries, and shall present a written and oral report to the Council upon completion of its work. The report shall include recommendations for implementing the Committee's findings, in each of the study areas listed below.

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~~PIONEER CEMETERIES STUDY COMMITTEE~~

~~Membership~~

~~The members of the Pioneer Cemeteries Study Committee shall be as follows:~~

~~Metro Councilor _____ Sandi Hansen~~

~~Pioneer Cemetery Planner _____ David Ausherman~~

~~Pioneer Cemetery Operator _____ Charlie Ciecko~~

~~Researcher _____ Alta Mitchoff~~

~~Land Donor _____ Greg Bettis~~

~~Historian _____ Dale Archibald~~

STAFF REPORT

RESOLUTION NO. 93-1881, CREATING A PIONEER CEMETERIES STUDY COMMITTEE.

Date: December 9, 1993

Presented by: Casey Short

PROPOSED ACTION: This resolution would create a committee to study the operations of Pioneer Cemeteries in the region, with the aim of developing a proposal for Council consideration which would establish an alternative system of operations and management. The study committee would have six months to do its work.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS: Resolution No. 93-1877 authorizes an intergovernmental agreement with Multnomah County for transfer of operations of certain County facilities to Metro. The Pioneer Cemeteries in the county are included in that transfer.

In a discussion at the Governmental Affairs Committee on the issue of the transfer, Councilor Hansen and Portland Commissioner Charlie Hales agreed that determining a management structure for the Pioneer Cemeteries was the most difficult of all the facilities involved. While there is significant regional value connected with the cemeteries, particularly in their contribution to cultural research and heritage as well as their value as open spaces, management of cemeteries is not generally considered to be a principal function of governments.

Councilor Hansen has followed up on that discussion by sponsoring this resolution which would create a study committee to determine whether there is a feasible alternative to public management of Pioneer Cemeteries. She has included on the committee representatives of different disciplines interested or involved in various aspects of Pioneer Cemetery management, including: herself, representing the Metro Council; a Metro Planning Department staff member who has prepared a management plan for Pioneer Cemeteries in Jackson County; the current Multnomah County Parks Director; a researcher; a member of a family that donated land for a Pioneer Cemetery; and the curator of the Oregon Historical Society. This group will be given six months to fulfill its charge as outlined in Exhibit A to the resolution.

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2. That the membership of the Pioneer Cemeteries Study Committee be as stated in Exhibit B.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this _____ day of _____, 1993.

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PIONEER CEMETERIES STUDY COMMITTEE

Membership

The members of the Pioneer Cemeteries Study Committee shall be as follows:

Metro Councilor	Sandi Hansen
Pioneer Cemetery Planner	David Ausherman
Pioneer Cemetery Operator	Charlie Ciecko
Researcher	Alta Mitchoff
Land Donor	Greg Bettis
Historian	Dale Archibald

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT

RESOLUTION NO. 93-1881A, CREATING A PIONEER CEMETERIES STUDY
COMMITTEE

Date: December 20, 1993

Presented by: Councilor Hansen

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: At its December 16, 1993 meeting the Governmental Affairs Committee voted 5-0 to recommend Council adoption of Resolution No. 93-1881A. All committee members were present and voted in favor.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION/ISSUES: Councilor Hansen presented the report. She said there is a Pioneer Cemetery in her district that is not in the Multnomah County system, and wanted to address how to manage that as well as determine whether there are alternatives to public management of the cemeteries. She explained that amendments had been drafted to provide for the Executive to consult with her in making appointments to the committee, and to delay beginning the committee's work until March. The latter amendment was requested in order to give time for staff to make the transition from Multnomah County to Metro.

Councilor McLain asked whether the six-month time for the work was appropriate, since the transition period for the Multnomah County parks system is for two years. She said the distinctions between ownership and management should also be addressed. Councilor Hansen said the committee would investigate ownership and legal issues of all Pioneer Cemeteries. Those issues need resolution before management issues are addressed. The goal is to find a way to make the cemeteries self-supporting without relying on parks system revenue. She envisions taking the second year of the transition period to implement management changes that are identified in the first study phase.

Councilor Gates asked if a representative from the Oregon Historical Society would be included on the committee. Councilor Hansen said yes, adding that Dale Archibald, curator of the Historical Society, has agreed to serve.