

Guffey Community Association Meeting about Cemetery
Feb. 20, 2013

In attendance were: Bill Betz, Flip Boettcher, Tom Eisman (County Administrator), Fergie Ferguson, Lani Gossett, Jon Klima, Barney Mason, Pam Moore, Geri Salsig, Ric Turley, Don? (Air Force), and Amy Unger (presenter)

Amy Unger, Park County Historic Preservation, gave presentation with slides regarding potential plans for ownership and management of the Guffey Cemetery. There is a desire for public access to the cemetery. It is to be designated as a historic landmark.

Who owns the cemetery?

Gustave Cohen – 1897 received ?

Dem Johers, 1945

Josey Mills/Mills Ranch, 1965

David A. Noble/Sports Enterprise Ltd, 1969

The Cover Mountain Ranch is owned by David Noble/Sports Enterprise Ltd. The cemetery got left behind.

In 1972, Sports Enterprise merged with Black Forest Development

Confirmed Jan 8, 2013 by Fidelity Title

Both companies are now defunct.

No taxes because property was overlooked.

They are looking for heirs.

Pros: No legal action; owner representative may be found

Cons: Could take a long time

Option 2: Park County seeks legal ownership

County files Quiet Title action

If successful, county acquires legal ownership

Public access is allowed

Process from public input on management decisions

Designation and preservation efforts can move forward

Legal ownership established in perpetuity

Management overseen by citizen board experienced with cemetery and historic land

County will not pursue ownership without community support

Anyone claiming ownership may come forward during Quiet Title process.

Geri Salsig knows an heir (wife of director) of Sports Enterprise, Millie Whittwer. We have a county attorney. Geri will contact Millie. Amy is committed to seeing this move forward. The Quiet Title has to be posted in the newspaper and has to run 6 weeks or 6 months.

Dead body dowser wants to come up and check cemetery.

