



Agenda
City of Cortez

Historic Preservation Board Meeting
Wednesday, September 1, 2021
Regular Meeting 5:00 p.m.

**Meeting will be held in the Mesa Verde Room
City Hall: 123 Roger Smith Ave**

I. Introductions of those present
Public Input/ Comments

II. Approval of Minutes from the August 4, 2021 meeting

III. New Business

- a. Response to letters sent to new property owners with buildings eligible but not listed
- b. Cortez Cemetery History
- c. Public Input suggestions for Planning Grant 2021
- d. Old City of Cortez Map and archival framing

IV. Old Business

- a. National Alliance of Preservation Commissions August 24-25 Summer short Course, 6 Webinars
- b. Colorado State Historical Fund Survey Planning Grant 2021. Project #2021-SP-001. progress
- c. Real Estate Information Sheet

V. Other Business

- a.
- b.

VI. Update from Representatives on Board

- a. City Council Representative
- b. Realtor
- c. Cortez Cultural Center
- d. Chamber of Commerce
- e. Planning and Building
- f. Montezuma County Historical Society

VII. Adjourn.

History of Cortez Cemetery

On January 5, 1892, George S. Todd sold approximately 5 acres of land to the Cortez Cemetery Association for \$75.00. (This is the first documentation of the existence of the Cortez Cemetery Association.) These 5 acres of land were part of Mr. Todd's apple orchard. His residence was located where the KRJZ radio station now stands.

The first recorded burial in our cemetery was the Reverend Joel Harper, pastor of 1st Congregational Church, on December 29, 1890, a bit more than a year before the land sale was recorded. That original land purchase is now along the northern edge of our current cemetery. It appears that in the 1890s and early 1900s there were many burials within the cemetery that were not officially recorded. What early records do exist record the burials of the Todd family and of several Civil War veterans.

On April 1, 1919, the Cortez Cemetery Association became incorporated. In 1936, under the supervision of Charles Constantine, many improvements were made to the grounds with funds donated by Cortez merchants.

On December 31, 1954, the Cortez Cemetery Association became the Cortez Cemetery District (as it remains today) with the ability to receive revenue from property taxes of Cortez residents.

Today, Cortez Cemetery covers approximately 33 acres, with 16 of those acres containing about 7,000 gravesites. The other 17 acres are being held for future expansion to the east.

CORTEZ CEMETERY PAYS TRIBUTE TO
ALL OUR NATIONS VETERANS
REGARDLESS OF THE BRANCH
OR PERIOD OF SERVICE!



Planning Grant 2021 Possible Public Involvement

- 1 Cortez Journal photo and article "Do you live in a historic home?"
- 2 Free Press article and photo
- 3 Enclosure in water bills
- 4 Facebook
- 5 City Website
- 6 Display at library "You might be living in a historic home"
- 7 Radio KRTZ, KSJD
- 8 Community Calendar Coffee Break
- 9 Say What television on antenna 24.6
- 10 CREA advertising Cortez Retail Enhancement