



## Cemetery Restoration Advisory Board September 28, 2016 Meeting Minutes

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### **Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Kohn at 3:40 p.m.

### **Roll Call:**

Brian Zets, Chair	A
Denise Kohn, Vice-Chair	P
Bill Resch	P
Nancy Ferguson	P
David Cline	P
Mary Fee	P
Kate Macchi	A

Also present: Jennifer Mason - Clerk of Council

### **Approval of the September 20, 2016 meeting Minutes:**

Member Ferguson moved to approve the minutes. Member Resch seconded, and all voted to approve the September 20, 2016 minutes.

### **Approval of the Agenda:**

Member Ferguson moved to approve the agenda. Vice-Chair Kohn seconded, and all voted to approve the agenda.

### **Continue organizing recommendations for the Board's report to council:**

Vice-Chair Kohn reported talking to Carmine Menduni from Columbus Art Memorial. Out of that discussion, she expected to receive a draft for a monument and a ball park estimate.

Member Fee offered to contact Mark Modlich from Darden/Modlich Memorials to see what kind of estimate they can put together.

Member Ferguson reported talking to Mark Morton from Gravestone Guardians of Ohio about other municipalities who were restoring cemeteries. Mr. Morton pointed her to Shannon Cemetery in Bluffton, Ohio. Member Ferguson explained how Bluffton's situation became contentious and handed out her research on Shannon

cemetery (attached). She noted that Bluffton had subsequently passed resolutions to not allow a walking path on the site and to mark their cemetery as a historic site. Member Ferguson stated she would do further research on a cemetery in Springfield, Ohio.

The Board discussed options for the headstones including storing off-site in favor of a monument, placing them back in lines, and grouping them in areas where no graves were found so as not to give the impression that they were grave site markers. The Board favored grouping away from grave sites and discussed putting family names together. On a website, the Board favored putting an asterisk by the names of relocated stones to indicate that they weren't at the head of a grave.

Member Resch made a motion that the Cemetery Restoration Advisory Board recommend that the headstones, if their original location is not known, be placed in locations not identified as grave sites.

Member Resch made a motion to table his motion to the next CRAB meeting. Member Ferguson seconded, and all present voted to table the motion.

The Board discussed legal responsibility for the cemetery. It was determined that Plain Township owned the land, but that the city maintained it. Member Resch suggested creating a legal instrument to protect the New Albany Cemetery. One similar to the permanent easement for Rocky Fork. The board talked about transferring the ownership of the cemetery to the city with an instrument with restrictions regarding development.

Member Resch moved that the Cemetery Restoration Advisory Board recommend to New Albany City Council that the title of the cemetery parcel be transferred from Plain Township to the City of New Albany, that the city continue to be responsible for the maintenance, and that the property be used in perpetuity as a history site and cemetery. Vice Chair Kohn seconded and all present voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

The Board talked about various restoration options, simplifying down to: (a) no monument, just headstones, (b) a monument at the entrance, (c) a monument at the center. Member Fee suggested a park-like area could be created outside of the boundaries of the cemetery. The surrounding park could feature historical artifacts.

Board members agreed to look for pictures of pioneer and restored cemeteries.

**Old Business:**

See above agenda item.

**New Business:**

Clerk Jennifer Mason reported to the Board that Council Member Chip Fellows asked in a council meeting about adding the restoration of a civil war-era cemetery to the CRAB's business. Clerk Mason put Council Member Fellows in touch with Chair Zets.

**Schedule the next meeting:**

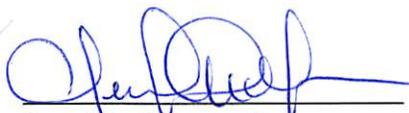
The Board agreed to set the next meeting for October 26, 2016 at 3:30 p.m.

**Adjournment:**

With no further business to conduct, Member Ferguson motioned to adjourn the meeting. Vice-Chair Kohn seconded the motion, and all voted in favor of adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 4:54 p.m.

Signed:

  
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Denise Kohn, Vice-Chair

  
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Jennifer Mason, Secretary

  
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Date