

Cemetery Restoration Advisory Board November 13, 2019 Meeting Minutes Village Hall

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Wilson at 3:35 p.m.

Swear in new members:

Vice Chair Wilson swore in Bill Carleton.

Roll Call:

Brian Zets, Chair	A
Victor Wilson, Vice Chair	P
Bill Resch, Secretary	P
Nancy Ferguson	P
Thomas Shockey	P
Mary Fee	P
Bill Carleton	P

Staff members present: Jennifer Mason, Clerk of Council. Public present were Denise Kohn, Grant Wilson, and Estoria Wilson.

Approval of the October 9, 2019 meeting minutes:

Vice Chair Wilson asked if there were any changes to the proposed minutes. Hearing none further changes, Vice Chair Wilson moved to approve the October 9, 2019 minutes. Member Ferguson seconded. All members voted to approve the October 9, 2019 meeting minutes.

Approval of the Agenda:

Vice Chair Wilson asked if there were any proposed changes to the agenda. Hearing none, Secretary Resch moved to approve the agenda. Member Carleton seconded and all members voted to approve the agenda.

Hearing of Visitors:

None.

Discussion of Historical Marker Text:

Members discussed the text and made suggestions for changes per the <u>attached</u> document. Further discussions would follow.

Secretary Resch reported that he checked with the Historical Society and the cemetery by Village Hall was not named Founders Cemetery. Member Ferguson agreed that it was accurately designated as the New Albany Cemetery in the CRAB report.

Member Ferguson said she would check to be sure no one was buried in the New Albany Cemetery after 1881. Members discussed whether there should be an explanation of why the oldest headstone predated the founding of the cemetery. Member Fee offered that it was likely due to re-interment. The board further discussed the Yantis family.

Member Resch asked if Daniel Swickard was buried in the New Albany Cemetery. Member Ferguson believed he was in another, former cemetery on State Route 62, near Fenway. Members discussed glacial kames and Indian burial mounds in the area.

After the suggested changes to the historical sign text were documented, Clerk Mason said she would send a revision of the sign text out to the CRAB ahead of the next meeting.

Other Business:

Members discussed the Wagner Cemetery and a recommendation to council.

Member Ferguson moved to recommend to council, the city manager, and the public service director that the city accept the quote of Mark Smith and proceed with the restoration of Wagner Cemetery. Member Fee seconded and all members voted in favor of the motion.

Member Carleton asked where things stood with the fencing around Wagner, and whether the CRAB would be recommending fencing on two or four sides. Member Carleton volunteered to get an estimate. Members discussed whether the fencing should be similar to Maplewood Cemetery and whether all cemeteries should get the same treatment. Member Ferguson agreed it would be nice to have consistency, but wanted to slow the process down. She was confident the fencing would be nice, even if not consistent. Members agreed to discuss the matter further when they had estimates.

Member Shockey suggested looking at aluminum fencing that resembled iron fencing. Member Fee agreed that aluminum looked nice, although it was not as long lasting.

Member Carleton volunteered to get an estimate from Able Fencing. Member Fee asked for the specs and/or the Able quote and she would get an estimate from Fortin. This way the estimates would be comparable. Member Shockey suggested getting the quotes for both iron and aluminum.

Schedule the next meeting:

The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, January 15, 2020 at 3:30 p.m. at Village Hall. The date was selected for being an off-week for city council which Clerk Mason also supported.

Poll members for comment:

None.

Adjournment:

Member Fee moved and Vice Chair Wilson seconded to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 4:24 p.m.

Signed:

Brian Zets, Chair

Bill Resch, Secretary

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The New Albany Cemetery was created in 1854 from the sale of three parcels owned by William Yantis, Jesse Kohn, and Elizabeth Armold. The combination of land created the 0.568-acre cemetery. This cemetery is the burial place of New Albany's founders, their families, and many of New Albany's earliest residents.

Because Rose Run Creek often flooded, water from the creek frequently washed into the New Albany Cemetery. Realizing a better location was needed, Maplewood Cemetery was created in 1881. Once Maplewood Cemetery opened, approximately 19 people were re-interred from the New Albany Cemetery into Maplewood Cemetery. The New Albany Cemetery was no longer utilized.

By 1970, the New Albany Cemetery was neglected and run-down. Monuments were missing and no reliable record existed for the individuals buried in the cemetery.

(129 words)

In 1979, the New Albany/Plain tocal Historical Society retrieved 25 monuments and the Franklin County Genealogical Society recorded the names.

In 2015, the New Albany Cemetery Restoration Advisory Board was formed to restore the cemetery. After extensive research and geographic imaging, the Board determined 134 individuals were originally interred in the New Albany Cemetery. The oldest headstone dates to 1837, (9)

By 2018, the Advisory Board identified the names of 68 individuals buried in the New Albany Cemetery.

While several headstones were cleaned and reset in their original locations, the remaining headstones were cleaned, repaired, and placed carefully were no existing gravesites are located. Twelve additional headstones were reproduced because the originals were unrestorable or missing.

(115 words)

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