



Cemetery Restoration Advisory Board
June 12, 2019 Meeting Minutes
Village Hall

Call to Order:

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

Swearing in of New Members:

Chair Zets administered the Oath of Office to Thomas Shockey who was re-appointed by council as a voting member.

Roll Call:

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

Staff members present: Jennifer Mason, Clerk of Council. Public present: Denise Kohn.

Approval of the May 15, 2019 meeting minutes:

Chair Zets requested to amend the minutes to include the word “not” on page 2, second to last paragraph. Members agreed and Clerk Mason interlineated that change. Vice Chair Wilson moved to approve the May 15, 2019 minutes as amended and Member Resch seconded. All members voted yes to approve the May 15, 2019 meeting minutes as amended.

Approval of the Agenda:

Chair Zets asked if there were any proposed changes to the agenda. Hearing none, he moved to approve the agenda. Vice Chair Wilson seconded and all voting members approved the agenda.

Hearing of Visitors:

None.

Cemetery Restoration Update and Discussion:

Clerk Mason told the CRAB that Public Service Director Mark Nemec was unable to attend this meeting and any July meeting due to a conflict. However, he could send a Public Service staff member to the July meeting in his place, if needed. Mr. Nemec had asked Clerk Mason to pass on the message that he had researched historical marker information. He had the requirements and an application which could be worked on at the next CRAB meeting. The annual deadline to submit applications was approaching fast and the CRAB would have to decide if it could submit an application in time. Public Service Director Mark Nemec would send out an email to the CRAB members.

Ms. Kohn offered that she had reviewed the signage text drafted by Member Ferguson and made some edits, but that Ms. Kohn's version still filled a page. (Attached) Clerk Mason said that some of the history could be featured on the website rather than the sign. Vice Chair Wilson recalled a shorter word limit for signage. Chair Zets suggested waiting until the CRAB could review the application.

Chair Zets wanted to gather materials for the cemetery website at the next meeting. Vice Chair Wilson suggested contacting Dennis Kessee, co-president of the New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society, regarding content. Chair Zets noted that Member Ferguson was also a member of the Historical Society.

Materials that could be included on the website included –

- Ohio Valley Archaeology Revised Report
- Cemetery Restoration Advisory Report – in whole or in part –
Members discussed putting in the entire document for transparency versus a compact version that was easier for the public to read.
- List of names of who was interred in the cemetery
- The longer version of Member Ferguson's drafted description
- A map with highlighted or exhibits
- 5-10 pictures

Members discussed making the summary on the website interactive with web links.

Member discussed the name "New Albany Cemetery." Chair Zets recalled that the Army Corps of Engineers had used that name when they platted the cemetery. Chair Zets suggested going through the Ohio Valley Archaeology Report for highlights and graphics that the CRAB wanted to feature.

Members discussed the Rose Run 2 concept plans, where the paths around the cemetery could go – staying away from grave sites, and whether a leisure trail would be on the north or south side of Rose Run Creek. Clerk Mason told the board she would email them about the council presentation of Rose Run 2.

Other Business:

None.

Schedule the next meeting:

The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, August 14th at 3:30 p.m.

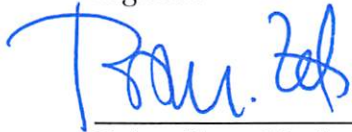
Poll members for comment:

None.

Adjournment:

Chair Zets moved and Vice Chair Wilson seconded to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 4:08 p.m.

Signed:



Brian Zets, Chair

Bill Resch, Secretary

6/2/19
Date

NEW ALBANY CEMETERY (1854-1881)

The New Albany Cemetery was created by the sale of portions of the lots of three adjacent land owners; William Yantis, Jesse Kohn and Elizabeth Arnold to the Plain Township Trustees. The combination of land created a .568 acre cemetery for community use. This cemetery is the burial place of the New Albany founders, Noble Landon and William Yantis, their families and many of New Albany's earliest residents.

Due to adjacent Rose Run Creek causing extensive flooding and vandalism perpetrated through the years, after closely-situated Maplewood Cemetery was created in 1881, the New Albany Cemetery was no longer used. After Maplewood Cemetery opened, at least 19 people were re-interred there from New Albany Cemetery and another 50 from historic cemeteries in the area. There is no record of the original location of burial for those people.

By the 1970's, the New Albany Cemetery was in poor condition, with missing monuments and no existing record of those who had been buried there or location of their gravesites. In 1979, some of the New Albany Plain Township Historical Society members retrieved 25 of the burial monuments and had the names recorded by the Franklin County Genealogical Society.

In 2015 the Cemetery Restoration Advisory Board (C.R.A.B.) was formed to restore the cemetery. After extensive research and geographical imaging, the Board determined that 134 people were originally interred in the New Albany Cemetery between 1854 and 1881, and 11 of those had been re-interred from other locations. The earliest headstone dates to 1837.

Between 2015 and 2018, and with assistance from Ohio Valley Archeology, Inc., CRAB identified between 63 and 83 existing burial sites in the cemetery, and identified the names of 68 people thought to be buried there based on monuments and other historical references. Historic cemetery conservator, Mark Smith of Gravestone Transformations, cleaned, restored and reset these monuments in 2018. A few monuments were placed in what thought to be their original location, the remaining monuments in spots with no existing gravesites and 12 additional monuments were reproduced because the originals were not restorable or were missing altogether.