



Cemetery Restoration Advisory Board
October 2, 2018 Meeting Minutes
Village Hall

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chair Zets at 5:46 p.m.

Roll Call:

Brian Zets, Chair	P
Denise Kohn, Vice-Chair	P
Bill Resch	P
Nancy Ferguson	A/P – arrived 5:55 pm
David Cline	P

Staff members present: Jennifer Mason, Clerk of Council, and Mark Nemec, Public Service Director

Approval of the April 6, 2018 meeting minutes:

Chair Zets moved to approve the minutes and Member Resch seconded. All voting members approved and the minutes were passed.

Approval of the Agenda:

Chair Zets asked if anyone had any proposed changes to the agenda. Hearing none, Chair Zets moved to accept the agenda. Vice Chair Kohn seconded and all voting members approved the agenda.

Hearing of Visitors:

Mary Fee, former member of the CRAB, now a member of the Charter Review Commission expressed missing the CRAB.

Other Business:

None.

Schedule the next meeting:

No subsequent meeting was scheduled. It was previously agreed that additional meetings could be scheduled as needed.

Poll members for comment:

None.

Cemetery Tour:

Members met with Mark Smith, owner of Gravestone Transformations, at the New Albany Cemetery. Council Member Durik and Mary Fee were also in attendance. Mr. Smith noted that the grave stones were spaced so that a 60" mower could run in north-south. A push mower would be needed between the individual stones. Mr. Smith pointed out new slabs and existing slabs. Slabs were slightly raised to protect the headstones from lawn maintenance equipment.

Member Ferguson thanked council for allocating the funds and finding the right people to do the jobs – Ohio Valley Archaeology and Gravestone Transformations. She reminded those present that documentation showed around 61 persons to be still buried in the New Albany Cemetery, although most headstones did not mark actual graves due to lack of location information. She talked about Mr. Smith's significant efforts to piece together the headstones and how Public Service Director Mark Nemec and his staff assisted Mr. Smith. Approximately 12 monuments would be completely reconstructed.

Members discussed the two future signs with historical information about the cemetery, the restoration process, and those buried there. The fence and entrance to the cemetery would come later. Member Resch told members about the planned Rose Run "green corridor" which would make the cemetery accessible to students.

Mr. Smith told several stories about the reconstruction process including: restoring a headstone with a carving of a child, finding a "primitive" stone with a carved-in cross which was likely made for a poor person, the gluing together of the Ogden block, and the "missing man" base with an unidentifiable piece of headstone. The piece was left in place to show the effects of time on old cemeteries and in case future pieces were located. Mr. Smith pointed out that one gravestone had a book carved on top with a clasp, that detail was unusual.

Mary Fee asked and Mr. Smith answered that there were 58 stones with bases. The original estimate was 48. Mr. Smith created 34 bases, 32 slotted and 2 poured pads.

Mr. Smith pointed out that most erected headstones were lined up the traditional way for an 1800s cemetery, head to the west and feet to the east, but that three were not in that orientation, including Elizabeth Yantis, because of how the bases were found.

Mr. Smith noted the unusual size of the Isabella Landon's headstone and how a base was specially constructed to fit. Arabella Landon's base was shallow for the headstone, so Mr. Smith drilled 3/16 inch stainless steel pins into the stone to keep it upright.

CRAB members and others in attendance toured the cemetery until a thunderstorm drove everyone inside.

Adjournment:

Chair Zets adjourned the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

Signed:

Brian Zets, Chair



Jennifer Mason, Clerk/Secretary

3/28/19
Date