



**CEMETARY RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, April 27, 2024**

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Wilson at 3:32 p.m.

Oaths of Office: Clerk Mason swore in Elizabeth Murch as a new member of the Cemetery Restoration Advisory Board.

Roll Call:

Victor Wilson, Vice Chair	P
Mary Fee, Secretary	P
Thomas Shockey	P
Ronni Feibel	A
Diana Jacobs	P
Ron Stoughton	P
Elizabeth Murch	P

Staff present: Clerk of Council Jennifer Mason, Public Services Manager Angie Hobart

Annual Organizational Meeting:

Elect Chairperson: Tom Shockey moved to elect Mary Fee as Chair. Elizabeth Murch seconded and all members voted to elect Mary Fee as Chair.

Elect Vice Chair: Victor Wilson moved to elect Ron Stoughton as Vice Chair. Victor Wilson seconded and all members voted to elect Ron Stoughton as Vice Chair.

Elect Secretary: Mary Fee moved to elect Tom Shockey as Secretary. Diana Jacobs seconded and all members voted to elect Tom Shockey as Secretary.

Establish date, time, and location for 2024 meetings:

Chair Fee moved to maintain 4th Tuesdays at 3:30 pm in Village Hall for regular meetings as needed in 2024. Vice Chair Ron Stoughton seconded and all members voted to maintain 4th Tuesdays at 3:30 pm for regular meetings as needed.

Clerk Mason read the statement from the Standard Rules of Procedure of New Albany Boards and Commissions reminding members that 3 consecutive absences or 4 absences in any year would be considered a forfeiture of the membership to the Commission/Board.

Approval of the April 25, 2023 meeting minutes:

Member Murch moved to approve the April 25, 2023 minutes as submitted. Chair Fee seconded and all members voted to approve the April 25, 2023 minutes.

Approval of the Agenda:

Member Wilson asked to add “Wagner Cemetery” as a discussion item under Other Business to the agenda. Members concurred. Member Wilson moved to add Wagner Cemetery to item 8. Other Business. Chair Fee seconded and all members voted to add the item.

Member Wilson moved to approve the agenda as amended. Member Murch seconded and the all members voted to approve the agenda as amended.

Other Business:

Historical Marker

Clerk Mason recalled the email she sent out to members regarding the Ohio Historical Society deadline. (Email thread is attached.) She described how the CRAB started the Historical Marker application many years prior and, by the time she and Chair Zets submitted it, the application had changed and the deadline had passed. As there was a Special Call for marker applications in 2023, the CRAB was encouraged to reapply in 2024. In preparing CRAB meeting materials, Clerk Mason learned that the deadline to apply this year was May 1. She had reviewed the new application, which had to be submitted on-line, but could be printed to work with. The board’s prior application package covered most of the items requested. She was willing to submit it before May 1 with the assistance of 1 or 2 CRAB members. In the alternative, the board could wait until next year, as it sounded likely they would qualify under the America250 Special Call, or longer for the next Open Call.

Clerk Mason described new considerations regarding where to put the Historical Marker and when it should be installed. Rose Run 2 designs and planning included the historic New Albany Cemetery and a proposed new Veteran’s Memorial. The CRAB had heard a presentation of Rose Run 2 by Planning Manager Steve Mayer. The Rose Run 2 project had been stopped. Clerk Mason understood a revised Rose Run 2 project was being worked on, but she didn’t know how far along it was. She knew discussions were underway.

Board members discussed how abruptly the Rose Run 2/Veterans Memorial plans had been stopped. There was an advertised event planned for Veteran’s Day and members recalled the cancellation happening the day before. Public officials were quiet about why. Clerk Mason stated she was told that the project hinged on a combination of public and private agreements and that something changed on the private side at the end. She didn’t have more detail, but members were welcome to ask council members or the city manager directly.

Chair Fee suggested waiting to submit the historic marker application since there were more plans to come. CRAB members further discussed the application and timing. Clerk Mason stated the remaining application pieces were mostly in place, however, the new application asked for 125 words, down from 130 words per side on the marker. The CRAB had carefully chosen and voted on the proposed text which contained 130 words on the front of the sign. Clerk Mason offered up copies of the approved marker wording and marker application to members, if they wanted edit the text to remove 5 words. She had some suggestions to get the text down to 125. The other application items to be worked out included the GPS location of the marker, the proposed dedication date, and tracking down some remaining documentation from the bibliography like deed book pages which were publicly available, but not printed out.

Board members speculated about the status of revised Rose Run 2 project and whether the historical marker should be stored in a garage. Clerk Mason was not aware of dates for any of the new Rose Run 2 design phases or construction.

Member Murch suggested setting a date to revisit the historical marker application. It sounded like someone had dropped the ball regarding applying this year. Clerk Mason agreed that she had due to the passage of time. Member Murch wanted to be proactive and schedule the discussion. Members concurred.

Member Murch moved to discuss the Historical Marker application at the January 2025 meeting of the board. Chair Fee seconded and all members voted to discuss the application at the January 2025 meeting. Motion passed.

Wagner Cemetery

Member Wilson reported that the flag at Wagner Cemetery still flew 24/7, but there was no light for it. Manager Hobart asked if he had noticed that recently. She believed the light was installed within the last 2 weeks. Member Wilson could not recall the last time he checked and said he would look again. Member Murch stated she had a friend in that area and would also follow up. Manager Hobart asked them to notify if the light wasn't working.

Member Wilson stated the Wagner Cemetery Historical Marker was incorrect. The spelling on the sign was "Wagnor." Members agreed that that had caused confusion. There was also the outstanding question about the number of interred veterans. The sign should be looked at for corrections.

Member Wilson noted the new fence around the cemetery was painted horse fence. The board had not recommended that. Member Shockey did not think it was appropriate for a cemetery. Member Jacobs asked what was appropriate. Several members talked about recommending iron fencing, similar to Maplewood Cemetery. Member Fee agreed the fence was more residential than cemetery. Member Shockey questioned why council didn't accept the CRAB's fence recommendation. Member Murch asked and Clerk Mason confirmed that cost was an issue for council. The horse fence was designated as temporary, although temporary wasn't defined. This cemetery board served in an advisory capacity and it was ultimately council's decision.

Member Wilson liked that the area around the cemetery had been cleaned up and cleared out. Member Murch stated that the restored grave markers looked good. Clerk Mason stated the new fencing was installed to protect the work done by Gravestone Transformations. Mark Smith, the headstone restorer, had other contracts and was scheduled to return and finish the job in 2026. Members discussed vandalism at the school where a gate had been ripped off and placed behind a maintenance building.

Member Shockey wanted to communicate to council that the current fencing should be replaced with more appropriate materials. He volunteered to write a letter to council. Member Murch offered to take the letter to a council meeting and present it.

Brief Presentation on the Taylor Farm Homestead

Manager Hobart presented the attached slides. The Taylor Farm property, now owned by the city, consisted of 95 acres, over 50 of those were wetland. She further described the property and features.

Chair Fee asked and Manager Hobart answered that the paths to the back of the property were not technically open as they were not complete. Member Jacobs asked and Manager Hobart confirmed that the hand railing for the bridges still needed to be installed, among a few other items. She noted that partially-buried cars and farm equipment had been reported on the site. Member Wilson thought that digging up those items could be a good boy scout project. Member Jacobs had observed signs down and people at the back of the property. Manager Hobart confirmed that someone(s) kept stealing the signs.

Manager Hobart showed the Taylor Farm phase 2 plan drawings. The parking lot was being expanded and the community gardens were being installed. This would be the last season for the community gardens located by Village Hall. Members praised the raised garden beds planned as part of the community gardens.

Member Murch asked and Manager Hobart answered that she didn't know if the house would be available for functions. The house would be part of phase 4 of the project which had not been budgeted or planned for - that was further out. Member Fee expressed dismay that someone had trashed the house and broken the windows.

Manager Hobart described entrance gates that would open at sunrise and close at sunset. The gate would always let cars leave.

Member Wilson described another park with a designated tornado shelter. It was built with a grant from the Ohio Emergency Management Agency. He asked and Manager Hobart answered that the outbuildings were not designated as tornado shelters. There were restrooms and storage for the community gardens.

Member Stoughton noted the designation of "Existing Barn" on a conceptual drawing. He asked and Manager Hobart confirmed that the previous barn was brought down. There was an existing barn on Walnut Road that would moved to Taylor Farm Park. Clerk Mason recalled a lot of council discussion around the prior barn, which been structurally and historically evaluated. One of the reasons the barn was brought down was that much of the property was below the 100-year flood plain and the old barn would have been required to be lifted up. Member Shockey asked and Manager Hobart answered that the chicken coup was not saved.

Manager Hobart described the sun shades and shelter house to be installed by the kids' playground. Member Stoughton asked and Manager Hobart believed the bird and bat houses would be installed in late summer or fall. Member Murch asked and Manager Hobart answered that the connecting bridge would open once the safe crossing supplies had arrived. It was taking 6-8 months to deliver those items. They were ordered about 2 months ago.

Board members further discussed the Taylor home. Member Shockey had heard that family members had lived in parts of the house before it was turned over to the city. Members discussed another home in a bad state of repair by Eagle's Pizza. A different neighboring house had been torn down.

Schedule next meeting: Member Shockey requested time to prepare the letter to council. The board agreed to set the next regular meeting to June 25, 2024 at 3:30 pm.

Poll members for comment:


Member Murch introduced herself and described her ongoing interest in genealogy. She had traced her family origins with the help of state genealogist, a resource not many knew about. She was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and was further exploring whether an ancestor came to America on the Mayflower. She was an attorney for COTA and regularly took the bus to work downtown. She encouraged others to check out the bus system.

Members welcomed her and asked her to assist with the search for documentation of veterans at Wagner Cemetery through her ties with the DAR.

Adjournment:

Chair Fee adjourned meeting at 4:24 pm

Signed:



Chair Mary Fee



Secretary Tom Shockey

6/25/24
Date



June 17, 2022

Brian M. Zets
New Albany Cemetery Restoration Advisory Committee Address
99 West Main Street
New Albany, OH 43054

RE: **THE NEW ALBANY CEMETERY** Ohio Historical Marker

Dear Mr. Zets:

Thank you for applying for an Ohio Historical Marker through the Ohio History Connection. Unfortunately, by using an old application you missed the May 1 deadline. We last accepted applications in July in 2019 and moved to a May 1 deadline in 2020.

Your topic is interesting and I encourage you to resubmit during our next OPEN CALL marker cycle. That date will be May 1, 2024. Should you decide to resubmit your application, please be sure to use the most recent application form found online at "RemarkableOhio.org" and to carefully read the "Evaluation Rubric" and other common questions posted there. We are in the process of working on an electronic submission as well so be sure to check our website prior to submitting a paper application.

Once again, thank you for your support of the Ohio Historical Marker program. We regret disappointing your hard work this year, but greatly appreciate all your efforts and are happy to answer questions.

Sincerely,

Laura

Laura Russell, Historical Markers Coordinator

HISTORICAL MARKER SPECIAL CALL

Applications due **May 1, 2023**



UNDERSERVED AUDIENCES FIRST CALL

- People of Color
- Rural & Underserved Counties
- Women
- LGBTQ+
- Immigrant Groups
- Under-Represented Faith Communities
- People with Disabilities

OHIO
HISTORY
CONNECTION

The Ohio Historical Marker program is seeking marker applications that represent underserved audiences throughout Ohio. In an effort to balance the marker program, we are asking for Ohio stories about people of color, women, LGBTQ+, immigrants, under-represented faith communities, and people with disabilities. Counties with fewer than 12 markers will be considered as an underserved area and given a spot to tell their stories during this application cycle.



OHIO
HISTORY
CONNECTION

QUESTIONS?

Please contact the Ohio Historical Markers Coordinator by phoning 614.297.2360, emailing historicalmarkers@ohiohistory.org, or visiting remarkableohio.org for more information.

remarkableohio.org

HOW DOES THE PROGRAM WORK?

- Members of a local community (the local sponsor) decide on a topic in their history that they would like to commemorate with an Ohio Historical Marker.
- The local sponsor does the necessary research to draft a short piece of text for the marker, secure a location for its placement, raise funds for its manufacture, and submit a completed application to the Ohio History Connection.
- Ohio History Connection staff work with the local sponsor to fact-check and refine the marker text.
- Ohio Historical Markers are produced at Sewah Studios in Marietta, Ohio, and shipped directly to the local sponsor.
- Applications are due on May 1, 2023.
- During a SPECIAL CALL only applications addressing the requested topics or locations will be considered.

Marker applications, price lists, sample submissions, as well as many frequently asked questions are found on remarkableohio.org.

From: [Laura Russell](#)
To: [Jennifer Mason](#)
Subject: Re: City of New Albany - 2025 historical marker application question
Date: Friday, April 12, 2024 2:35:24 PM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)

Hi Jennifer,

Next year will be a SPECIAL CALL for the America250 celebrations. The topics will be pretty broad, so you likely will still fall into that call. The special call information will go onto our website sometime in mid-late May.

Typically, we alternate SPECIAL and OPEN calls so that applicants can plan ahead to alternate even (open) and odd (special) years for their application.

Laura

Laura Russell, Historical Markers Program Manager
Community Engagement Department
Ohio History Connection | 800 East 17th Avenue | Columbus, OH 43211-2497
614-297-2360 office | 614-270-9160 mobile
lrussell@ohiohistory.org
Pronouns: She/Her/Hers

Embrace the present, share the past... By intentionally embracing all Ohio stories and including all genders, races, religions, events, and locations on marker texts, the Ohio Historical Marker Program hopes to create a more equitable Ohio narrative. ***...and to transform the future!***

From: Jennifer Mason <jmason@newalbanyohio.org>
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2024 1:56 PM
To: Historical Markers <HistoricalMarkers@ohiohistory.org>
Subject: City of New Albany - 2025 historical marker application question

You don't often get email from jmason@newalbanyohio.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

Good Afternoon,

Will there be any restrictions on historical marker applications in 2025? The New Albany Cemetery Restoration Advisory Board previously applied in 2022. Due a defect in the application (we used an old application form), it was sent back and we were encouraged to reapply in 2024 for the OPEN CALL. Unfortunately, I see we are about to miss that May 1 deadline. I'm hoping it will still be OPEN CALL in 2025.

Thank you for your time and assistance.

JENNIFER MASON

Clerk of Council
Phone: (614) 939-2244

NEW ALBANY
COMMUNITY CONNECTS US

