



Greenwood Cemetery Advisory Board – Regular Meeting Minutes
March 6, 2026 – 8:30 a.m.
City Commission Room 205, 151 Martin Street, Birmingham, MI

1. Call To Order

Linda Buchanan, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: Chair Linda Buchanan, Vice Chair Linda Peterson; Board Members Laura Schreiner, Margaret Suter

Absent: None

Staff: City Clerk Bingham

3. Introduction of Guests

None.

4. Approval of the Minutes – December 5, 2025

MOTION: by Buchanan, seconded by Schreiner:
To accept the minutes as is.

VOTE: Yeas, 4
Nays, 0

5. Unfinished Business

None.

6. New Business

A. Cemetery Signage Update

CC Bingham presented the item and answered questions from the Board.

Board edits to the grammar and appearance of the draft signage were discussed ~~integrated during discussion~~¹. Beyond specific edits to the draft signage, Board members discussed the following regarding the item:

- Replacing the map sign while leaving it in the ~~its~~² present location is likely the most appropriate option.
- It could be beneficial to duplicate some of the historic information onto the center sign within the Cemetery.
- Staff will return to the Board with updated renderings before purchasing the signs.

B. Introduction to the Public Portal

CC Bingham presented the item and answered questions from the Board.

C. Greenwood Cemetery Advisory Board Composition Discussion

CC Bingham presented the item and answered questions from the Board.

¹As amended at the May 1, 2026 Board meeting.

²As amended at the May 1, 2026 Board meeting.

Board members discussed the following regarding the item:

- The majority of City boards require either residency or being a Birmingham registered voter.
- While one need not be a Birmingham resident to buy a plot in Greenwood Cemetery, since the Cemetery is supported by Birmingham taxes it is ~~most~~³ appropriate to require that Board members be Birmingham residents.
- Some Boards have alternate members. Since alternate members are not required to attend regularly, they may not always be apprised of present topics.
- The majority of Boards have seven members.
- Since GCAB is a narrower scope than some of the other Boards, it might still be functional to reduce the size of the Board to five. This might allow the Board to best efficiently and effectively operate.
- One of the alternates could be a non-resident with interest in the Cemetery either as a plot owner, a family member within so many degrees of someone interred in the Cemetery, or someone with a professional background related to the Cemetery. There may be reasons to allow a relevant professional, plotholder, or close family member of a plotholder non-resident to join GCAB. It might be possible to limit the non-resident position to an alternate Board member position.⁴
- These changes, and appointments, would still be up to the discretion of the Commission.

D. Periodic Review of the Greenwood Cemetery Operational Procedures, Conditions, and Regulations

CC Bingham presented the item and answered questions from the Board.

Board members discussed the following regarding the item:

- It is appropriate to consider whether 'immediate member' should include step-grandchildren, since both step-children and grandchildren are included.
- Staff will return with a recommendation on whether and how to address instances of the above or similar relations in the Rules and Regulations.
- Section Seven, § (A)11 and 12, and Section Eight are presently consistent, and care must be taken to ensure their consistency with each other in the future if changes to either section are made. It would be optimal if the related rules contained in these sections were consolidated into one section.
- Section 10 § A should be clarified.
- The Board did not support ~~exploring the~~⁵ adding interest to plot payment plans.
- The Rules and Regulations seemed to have generally retained their applicability and appropriateness since the last review.

E. Future Business

7. Reports

- A. Update from Museum Director Leslie Pielack (when applicable)
- B. Update from the Clerk's Office
- C. Financial Reports
- D. Cemetery Sales and Activity
- E. City Manager's Reports

8. Open to the Public for Matters Not on the Agenda

9. Board Comments

The Board discussed the following:

- A magazine essay featuring the Cemetery;
- Former Board member Paul Connell's attendance at Board meetings; and,
- How the Board might best support the Cemetery in retaining adequate DPS storage and

³As amended at the May 1, 2026 Board meeting.

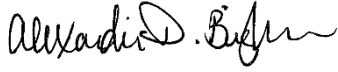
⁴As amended at the May 1, 2026 Board meeting.

⁵As amended at the May 1, 2026 Board meeting.

access space onsite.

10. Adjournment

The Board motioned to adjourn at 9:37 a.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alexandria Bingham".

Alexandria Bingham, City Clerk

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Laura Eichenhorn".

Laura Eichenhorn, City Transcriptionist