Greenwood Cemetery Advisory Board Minutes
December 6, 2024
Municipal Building, 151 Martin
8:30 a.m.

I. Call To Order

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

II. Roll Call

Present: Chair Linda Buchanan; Paul Connell, Linda Peterson, Laura Schreiner, Margaret Suter

Absent: Jacqueline Patt, Joseph Vercellone

Staff: City Clerk Bingham; Finance Director Designee Chavez (left 8:50 a.m.), Finance Director Gerber (left 8:50 a.m.)

III. Introduction of Guests

The Chair introduced FD Gerber and FDD Chavez.

FD Gerber gave a report on the Cemetery's finances and answered informational questions from the Board.

IV. Approval of the Minutes

MOTION: by Buchanan, seconded by Connell:
To move acceptance of the September 6, 2024 minutes.

VOTE: Yeas, 5
Nays, 0

MOTION: by Buchanan, seconded by Schreiner:
To move acceptance of the minutes of October 11, 2024.

VOTE: Yeas, 5
Nays, 0

V. Unfinished Business

A. Review of the 2023-2024 DRAFT GCAB Annual Report

CC Bingham introduced the item and answered informational questions from the Board.

The Board recommended updates to the draft. CC Bingham integrated the recommended updates into the draft during discussion.

Additional Board comments were as follows:

- The report was well done and easy to read.

MOTION: by Buchanan, seconded by Connell:
Acceptance of the 2023-2024 annual report, as amended.

VOTE: Yeas, 5
Nays, 0

VI. New Business

A. Recommendation for Grave Release

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

Board member comments were as follows:

- If graves continue to be sold at the same pace, soon there will be no more graves to sell. The Cemetery may become stagnant at that point.
- Land is a diminishing resource, and it is to be expected that eventually there will be no more space available.
- There will continue to be ways of raising funds for the Cemetery.
- Private sales and second and third burial rights would both remain options for people to be buried in the Cemetery.
- Some of the presently obstructed graves may not remain obstructed permanently, and reclamation could be explored for the future.

MOTION: by Suter, seconded by Connell:
A release of ten more graves.

VOTE: Yeas, 5
Nays, 0

B. 2025 Proposed Meeting Schedule

The following points were raised during Board discussion:

- Meetings must be held quarterly.
- It would be preferable to have more meetings during better weather than during bad weather.
- It is important to have meetings at the end of the year.
- Meeting more often than once a quarter is beneficial.
- Last minute changes to the schedule may mean that certain members would not be able to attend those meetings.

MOTION: by Schreiner, seconded by Suter:
To adopt the meeting schedule as written, knowing that if we need to add, we can add, as well as if we need to take something away.

VOTE: Yeas, 5
Nays, 0

C. Future Business
   a. January 3, 2025 – Cancel
   b. February 7, 2025
   c. March 7, 2025
   d. Other Items for Consideration

VII. Reports

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

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

IX. Board Comments

The following points were raised during Board discussion:

- There were some concerns regarding a Board member's absences, and how to proceed.
- Said Board member has made valuable contributions when in attendance.
- The City has provided useful documentation on the City's ethical requirements in the past, and Board members should take the time to review the documentation.
- A brief biographical snapshot of Solomon Caswell, who is buried in the Cemetery, was provided.

X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

Alexandria D. Bingham, City Clerk

Laura Eichenhorn, City Transcriptionist