

City of Raleigh Historic Cemeteries Advisory Board (CORCHAB)-
Monthly Meeting

**Tucker House*418 N. Person Street
December 8, 2014**

Members Present:

Attendees:

Jimmy Thiem, Chair

Jenny Harper, Vice Chair

David Brown

Jose Fraser

Terry Harper

Jane Thurman

Danny Morgan

Wayne Schindler

Absent and Excused: Christy Cornell

Absent and Excused: Danny Coleman

CALL TO ORDER

The Board Chair called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

DISCUSSION

Public Comment

There was no public comment received.

Minutes

The Board discussed and approved revisions to the meeting minutes from the November 10 board meeting. A motion to approve was made by David Brown and seconded by Jose Frazier. The motion carried unanimously.

Committee Reports

The Landscape Committee reported that several members and department staff planted 300 bulbs at O'Rourke-Catholic Cemetery this morning. This project completes planned landscape improvements at this cemetery. The committee indicated that bulbs were planted around the recently installed tree and plaque for Alpha Howze, and on either side of the main entrance gate on Pender Street.

The committee also reported on their further discussion of potential landscape improvements at City Cemetery. The committee developed a draft list of guiding principles to consider for landscaping introduced within and adjacent to City Cemetery. The Landscape Committee will meet again on Monday,

January 12 at 4:30 p.m. at the Tucker House. The committee was tasked with bringing a report with possible recommendations back to the full board at the February meeting.

The Maintenance Committee reported progress being made on a final draft of the maintenance/management manual for our three historic cemeteries. The committee plans to meet in January to review prior to presenting to the full board in February.

The Volunteer Committee did not meet. Staff reported that we have two cemetery volunteers registered at this time. Neither individual has expressed a cemetery preference. Staff is finalizing a list of possible volunteer activities for review by the committee. A meeting is to be scheduled by the committee chair, David Brown.

Chair's Report

No report.

Old Business

The board continued discussion of local designation for City Cemetery and Mt. Hope Cemetery. The remaining issue relates to criteria for the introduction of new or replacement monuments. The committee reviewed the draft protocol developed by the chair and distributed at last month's meeting. The board confirmed with Danny Morgan that the critical issue for him was not one of volume (the number of requests to install monuments), but one of timing (not delaying the installation of a new or replacement monument). There are few (one or two) burials in the old section of Mt. Hope annually and fewer at City Cemetery. The board confirmed that the new section of Mt. Hope is outside the area being considered for local designation and is therefore excluded from any Programmatic COA requirements. The chair reminded the board that it had been our intention to have an informal discussion about monuments with the COA Committee of RHDC. The board discussed the value of local designation, the applicability of the new design guidelines (approval still pending) and the role HCAB in review and approval of cemetery related matters. After some discussion about moving forward with this item, the board put the issue to a vote. Terry Harper made a motion that the board prepare a draft Programmatic COA that would include monuments, as well as other maintenance-related items previously discussed. The motion was seconded by Jose Fraser. The board voted 5 to 1 in the affirmative (Jimmy Thiem). This issue was placed in the Maintenance Committee by the chair. He asked that the committee develop the framework for a programmatic C.O.A. for review by the full board.

New Business

None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

The board will not meet in January to allow committees to meet and finalize items to be brought forward at the next meeting scheduled for Monday, February 9, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. at the Tucker House.

END OF REPORT