

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

**Tucker House*418 N. Person Street
Monday, May 12, 2014**

Members Present:

Jane Thurman

Wayne Schindler

Jose Fraser

Danny Morgan

David Brown

Jenny Harper

Terry Harper (arrived 5:41)

Jimmy Thiem

Danny Coleman

Staff present: Christy Cornell

CALL TO ORDER

Jimmy Thiem called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

DISCUSSION

No public comments were received.

The Board reviewed the minutes from the April 14, 2014 meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Old Business-

Jenny gave the Landscape Committee report. She noted that the trees have been planted along Pender Street. Danny brought pictures of the five new trees. He mentioned problems with landscaping under the new fence. The proposed solution is to kill off a 16" strip under fence and install bulbs along Tarboro Rd. A list of historically appropriate plants was distributed for review and comment.

David noted that he spoke with Councilor Russ Stephenson about the proposed idea of relocating the sidewalk along E. Hargett Street in order to create tree planting areas but the idea was not well received. David noted that it may be best to consider planting trees along the cemetery's perimeters (South Street, New Bern Avenue and Monie Lane. Zach will make some recommendations.

Jane mentioned that construction is under way for new condos on the property located southwest of the cemetery on E. Hargett St. This may pose a problem with off-leash dogs in City Cemetery. Wayne noted that staff is working to renovate nearby John Winters Park to install dog waste stations.

Wayne noted that he is scheduled to meet with Tonia Tully review outstanding issues related to Local Designation for City and Mt. Hope Cemeteries.

Christy reviewed the tentative ribbon-cutting dates for the three cemeteries. Wayne will contact Octavia Rainey to ensure her CAC is notified of the dates. An ad-hoc committee (Jimmy, Jane, Jose) was formed to help plan the ribbon cuttings.

Maintenance Manual- Christy noted that the Maintenance Manual is in progress. The Committee will be notified to review the document in late May.

Volunteer Committee- David reported that the Committee met to identify tasks volunteers could do within the cemeteries.

1. Special works- light mulch, use d2 on grave stones
2. Establishing community watch program, enlist citizens, report to police or to Danny- send in electric service requests.
3. Special events- Flag Day at O'Rourke, help with ribbon-cuttings, or tours
4. Documentation of records and files, research. (ex. Identify Veterans within the cemeteries)

New Business

Chair's report- Jimmy acknowledged everyone's effort.

Staff Report- No report

Christy reviewed a Budget Status Report with the Board. The Board asked Christy to research and analyze the costs of continuing to rent vs. purchasing a used sea-box. Additionally, the Board agreed that a new work plan and expenditure budget should be developed after July 1.

Jane mentioned that she received call from Robin with Oakwood Cemetery informing her that descendants of Jacob Johnson were coming to town. She was asked to provide a brief tour of City Cemetery. Purportedly, Oakwood Cemetery is hopeful the Johnson descendants will authorize the relocation of his casket to Oakwood Cemetery. The Board expressed concern in maintaining the historical fabric of the cemetery, and possible significant damage to surrounding plots as a result of the disinterment. Jane, Jimmy, and Wayne are scheduled to meet with the descendants on May 16, 2014.

Wayne reported that he was interviewed by WRAL-TV on 4/16/14 about cemeteries.

The Nation Magazine will be filming in City Cemetery this week.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

The next meeting of the Historic Cemeteries Advisory Board is scheduled for June 9, 2014.

END OF REPORT