

CEMETERY BOARD MINUTES

Wednesday, September 7, 2022

Conference Room C, Lake Geneva City Hall

Meeting was called to order by President Mary Sibbing at 7:00 pm.

Roll call.

Present: Mary Sibbing, Ruth Monico, Patrick Quinn, Terry Krohn,
Alderman Fesenmaier (arrived at 7:20 p.m.).

Guests: Chris Brookes, Joan Lagerdorf, Robert Dvorak, Robert's sister, and Bruce Dale.

Comments from the Public limited to 5 minutes, limited to items on the agenda:

The Dvorak and Dale families expressed their concern with the planned Cemetery walk in Oak Hill Cemetery. Their family members are buried in Oak Hill and according to a website they saw for an Oak Hill Cemetery Event, thought the walk was disrespectful and should not be seen as an 'attraction,' as it appeared to them. Patrick and Mary addressed their concerns and Chris Brookes gave additional information on the walks. It was explained that the Cemetery tours honor past residents who have contributed to the growth of the town of Lake Geneva. The families showed the Board the website that concerned them and the Board understood their concerns. The website they were referring to is not affiliated with Black Point Estate and Gardens, who sponsors the cemetery walks. The Board feels their concerns were addressed. They were encouraged to attend the Oak Hill tour. They stayed for the rest of the meeting. Alderman Fesenmaier arrived at this point.

Cemetery Board Minutes from August 17, 2022, approved. Motion made by Patrick Quinn and seconded by Terry Krohn. Motion carried 5-0.

Follow up Cemetery Walks: At their August 22 meeting, City Council approved the request of the Cemetery Board for Chris Brookes, representing Black Point, for the Oak Hill and Pioneer Cemetery walks.

Follow up Historic sign: The historic sign for Oak Hill Cemetery will be ready around September 26th. At this time, a specific time frame to mount the sign was unavailable.

Follow up on tree planting to honor Jim Davis, former Geneva Lake Museum Docent. The placement of the tree will be located in front of the Chapel. The plaque will be paid for by the Historic Preservation Committee. The Historic Preservation Committee will look into a dedication ceremony before the tour.

Discussion/recommendation on increasing Cemetery Board members from 5 to 7. Follow up next meeting.

Follow up discussion regarding purchasing adjacent private land with tax key numbers ZA400001, ZA400002, ZA400003, and Z400004 for Oak Hill Cemetery expansion. Mary met with Tom Earle, and his suggestion was for the Cemetery Board to look into moving forward with the purchase of the property. Mary Jo Fesenmaier suggested we look into the right of eminent domain with regards to those properties. Motion made Patrick Quinn and seconded by Terry Krohn. Motion passed 5-0.

Follow up: Mary discussed the 2023 budget with Tom Earle, and it was agreed that several items are a priority. Water and sewer repair up to the top of Oak Hill Cemetery and water spigots are some of those priorities. Discussion followed. Motion made by Patrick Quinn and seconded by Terry Krohn. Motion passed 5-0.

Discussion and recommendation that a new Columbarium in Oak Hill Cemetery be part of a long-term budget included in the Capital Improvement Project Budget. Motion made by Patrick Quinn and seconded by Terry Krohn. Motion passed 5-0.

Discussion and recommendation to repave Oak Hills existing roadways and paving some grass roads for the 2023 Capital budget. Motion made by Patrick Quinn and seconded by Terry Krohn. Motion passed 5-0.

Discussion and recommendation to repair/refurbish the Oak Hill Sexton Shed at top of roadway and to include the bathrooms accessible to the public in the Capital Improvement Project Budget. Motion made by Patrick Quinn, seconded by Terry Krohn. Motion passed 5-0.

Discussion and recommendation to repair Oak Hill drainage issues in the 2023 Capital Budget. Motion made by Patrick Quinn, seconded by Terry Krohn. Motion passed 5-0.

Discussion and recommendation to approve repair of Oak Hill Shop Buildings auto gate for the 2023 Capital Budget.
Motion made by Patrick Quinn and seconded by Terry Krohn. Motion passed 5-0.

Discussion/recommendation of joining the Wisconsin Alliance of Cemeteries and 2 people to attend the annual conference of the WI Alliance of Cemeteries for the 2023 Capital Budget. Motion made by Alderman Fesenmaier and seconded by Patrick Quinn. Motion passed 5-0.

Recommendation for Mary to meet with Laura Duchermin, City of Lake Geneva Treasurer, for financial report insight and report back to Cemetery Board with better understanding of cemetery revenue, disbursements, perpetual care, etc. Motion made by Ruth Monico and seconded by Patrick Quinn. Motion passed 5-0.

Reviewed Tom Earles' Monthly report. Alderman Fesenmaier suggested including in his next report the total number of interments in a grid and the total money collected for interments. Mary to discuss with Tom Earle.

Pontem report. Nan Elder stated it will take time to accurately input all the information.

Future agenda items: look into grants or donations as additional sources of revenue.
review of the cemetery walks.
permits needed for cemetery walks or special events on cemetery grounds.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, October 26, 2022, 7:00 pm. Lake Geneva City Hall, Conference Room C.

Motion by Terry Krohn to adjourn, and seconded by Ruth Monico. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting was adjourned at 8:17 pm.

Respectively submitted,
Ruth Monico, Secretary