



Richfield Village Cemetery Board

Minutes for February 22, 2023

Call to Order: 6:04pm

Roll Call: Present –Mrs. Healey, Mr. Scobie, Mr. Stoppenhagen, Mr. Taylor

Motion to excuse Mrs. Bucker – Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mrs. Healey, vote was unanimous

Guest – Mayor Wheeler, Director Waldemarson

Approval of minutes:

November 10,2022 – Motion by Mr. Stoppenhagen, second by Mrs. Healey. Yes – Stoppenhagen, Healey, Scobie. Mr. Taylor abstained.

November 30,2022 with revisions – Motion by Mrs. Healey, second by Mr. Taylor. Approval was unanimous.

January 25, 2023 with revisions – Motion by Mr. Stoppenhagen, second by Mr. Taylor. Approval was unanimous.

Mayor's reports – The Summit County Board of Developmental Disabilities is celebrating Developmental Disabilities Month with free admission to the Akron Zoo between March 4 & March 6 for Summit County residents. Mayor signed a contract with Kinetic that will double the internet speed in the Village to 2 MB. The Mayor will be with the Mayor and City Manager's Conference in Washington DC from 2/28 thru 3/2 and will meet with Senators Vance and Brown, along with other officials and departments. There is a ball at the Library of Congress on 3/1. Despite their issues, NOPEC is allowing us to apply for our annual \$1500 grant, we use this money to pay for the Concerts on the Square during the summer. Architectural drawings for the pickleball & tennis courts are being done. The plan is to present them to PZC at their meeting on 3/14/2023. Director Piepsny cancelled the joint PZC/Park Board meeting on 2/28/23. The Mayor met with Congresswoman Sykes. She promised to help us with funding for streets, sewers and water.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Update on new space for graves in West Richfield Cemetery? Scott – Nothing yet, hopefully we'll have more information next week. Pat asked if any of the "on hold" graves had opened up, Scott indicated a few, no more than 4 had opened up. Scott indicated there is an indigent burial that will take place. The Village covers the cost of the cremation and the headstone, either a pillow stone or a bronze plaque. This is the second indigent burial we've had.



- B. Update on changing the crypts to niches on the north side of the mausoleum in West Richfield Cemetery? Scott – The conversion kits were ordered; they are about 8 weeks out. This will give us 48 niches that can hold 2 cremains.

Mr. Taylor asked about changing the row previously chosen for the conversion from the top row to another row. The idea was discussed and no one had an objection to moving the row. MOTION – Mr. Taylor made the motion to change the row converted to hold cremains from the top row, as approved on 11/10/22, to the bottom row. Mr. Stoppenhagen seconded. Mrs. Healey asked that the motion be amended to hold the top row for a potential phase 2 of conversions. Motion passed unanimously with the addition of retaining the top row for a potential phase 2 conversion. Mr. Waldemarson brought up the plaques needed for the slab of granite covering the converted crypt to niche areas. He suggested that we need to have a uniform look and size to the plaques and make sure they were an appropriate size to hold the information needed. He handed out copies of 4 pages from the Coldspring catalog with options. The board briefly discussed how do we handle individual vs. multiple names, and if there should only be 1 style for the entire side of the mausoleum. Scott said If we have 1 style and size, we can make 1 jig to drill the holes needed in the granite. The Rules Subcommittee will discuss this and bring their decision to the board

- C. Update on bringing the Columbarium plan for Fairview Cemetery to PZC for approval? Scott – We need to know exactly where the back property line is so we can confirm and add the setback to the plan from Gravers & Ward. With Dave Neumeier on vacation until 3/6 we're on hold with GDP doing that work. Mrs. Healey asked if PZC needs to review the plan, Mr. Waldemarson said that PZC needs to review the distance from the back property line. Pat asked if we could clarify the steps after PZC approval. Mayor said PZC meets twice a month and it takes 2 weeks to get on their agenda. He would talk to Brian about getting on the 2/28 agenda, but the rules of PZC will most likely push it out until their 3/14 meeting.

There was discussion that we didn't know what PZC wanted from the Board to be added to the agenda, then we were told they didn't need anything, finally we were told they only needed the Gravers & Ward drawing and the dimension from the property line. Mr. Stoppenhagen commented that Director Franz had asked if the Charter required a referral from Council early in the process, then on 2/21/23 commented that all he needed was the G&W drawing and the dimension from the back property line. The Mayor said everything we've done in the Village so far had required a referral from Council, the Council accepts the plans. Mrs. Healey asked if Council could refer it to PZC without the dimension or if someone other than GDP could provide the dimension. Scott said that GDP had to do that work since we weren't positive where the property line was. The mayor said that he and Mr. Waldemarson will confer with the Director of Planning & Zoning and the Law Director to draft referral legislation if necessary, and get it to Council as early as the 3/7/23 Council meeting.

- D. Any other old business? There was none



NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Mrs. Healey noted that the Cemetery Rules Subcommittee met on 3/12/23 and she had done the minutes. Everything they talked about was related to Chapter 945, the Cemetery Rules. They discussed the following:
1. Prices of niches
  2. Rules regarding gardens in the cemeteries
  3. Direction of the engraving on one, or both sides of headstones.
  4. Limits on the height of headstones.
  5. Review of current terminology.
  6. Possibly adding 845.01 to Chapter 945. Mr. Taylor asked what 845.01 was, Mrs. Healey said they would discuss it tomorrow.
  7. Section 945.02 – Scott & Angel are affected by this. Regarding getting an overview from the new Law Director on pertinence & how to gather legal documents required by that section, along with where to store them.
  8. How to enforce the rules and how to change the rules.
- It was discovered that Cheryl had not posted the most current revision to the rules, that were in the Codified Ordinance, to the Cemetery section of the Village website. What is posted is not the most current revision of the rules and it should be. Scott will check on 2/23/23 and will address it.
- B. Tour of both cemeteries with Pat, Tom, Scott and Bill, anyone else interested? Tom and Bill commented that they learned a lot about the cemeteries. Impressed with maintenance. Questioned why Mausoleum is not being used on the North side. Scott explained we are selling the South side first.
- C. Any other New Business? There was none.

Adjourned: 6:50 – Moved by Mrs. Healey

Next meeting to be March 22, 2023 at 6:00 PM