

**Greenwood Cemetery Advisory Board Minutes**  
**September 2, 2022**  
**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  
Pam DeWeese  
Linda Peterson  
Laura Schreiner  
George Stern  
Margaret Suter  
Joseph Vercellone

Absent: None

Administration: City Clerk Bingham, IT Manager Brunk, Museum Director Pielack, Deputy Clerk Woods

**III. 2022-2023 Organization**

**A. Selection of Chair and Vice-Chair**

**MOTION:** by Suter, seconded by Schreiner:  
To nominate Linda Buchanan to serve as Chair.

**VOTE:** Yeas, 7  
Nays, 0

**MOTION:** by Suter, seconded by DeWeese:  
To nominate Linda Peterson to serve as Vice-Chair.

**VOTE:** Yeas, 7  
Nays, 0

**IV. Approval Of The Minutes**

**A. Review of the Minutes of July 1, 2022**

**MOTION:** by Stern, seconded by Buchanan:  
To approve the minutes of July 1, 2022 as submitted.

**VOTE:** Yeas, 5

Nays, 0  
Abstain: DeWeese, Vercellone

**V. Unfinished Business**

**VI. New Business**

**A. Find A Grave - Guest Speaker Jacquie Patt**

Chair Buchanan introduced Ms. Patt.

Ms. Patt spoke about her experiences with Find A Grave (FG) and answered informational questions for the Board.

Chair Buchanan described her recent experience using FG.

In reply to Board comments, MD Pielack explained:

- The Birmingham Museum (the Museum) would be in a good position to manage FG's Greenwood records and would be taking that on as a public service;
- The goal would be to maintain accuracy and best practices for use of historic resources;
- The Museum would be able to educate people via its website, and other City-affiliated websites as appropriate, about how they can access further information or submit updates or corrections to their loved ones' FG pages;
- Maintaining the accuracy of the records of the historic graves at Greenwood is important;
- Given Ms. Patt's intensive research, her transferring her work on FG to the Museum would be a boon to anyone trying to learn more about someone buried in Greenwood;
- FG could help the Board answer some questions about grave conditions, which is one of the Board's stated goals, without having to conduct an additional survey;
- The Museum would work with the families of more recent decedents if those families have concerns about having their information on FG;
- The intent would be for the Museum to take on management of Ms. Patt's research on FG. There was no intention presently to further expand the Museum's interaction to other grave documentation databases; and,
- At present, it was an open question whether the Museum would engage in creating new pages on FG in the future.

CC Bingham:

- Thanked Ms. Patt for her informative presentation on FG;
- Noted for the Board that management decisions regarding Greenwood's FG pages would not fall under the Board's purview;
- Explained that FG is a collaborative effort of many people that the City and the Museum has no direct control over, but will be informing the public about as a possible resource; and,
- Explained that FG would benefit people trying to research those buried in Greenwood by providing them a way of accessing basic information at any time, instead of only through phone calls to the Clerk's Office or Ms. Arcome.

There was Board consensus that the Museum would need to offer a disclaimer that FG is a third-party, crowd-sourced tool, and not owned, managed, or vetted for accuracy by the City itself.

The Board also thanked Ms. Patt for all of her work.

**B. 2021-2022 Annual Report**

CC Bingham noted the Board’s recommended revisions and said the revisions would be integrated.

Mr. Stern asked CC Bingham to convey his compliments to the Finance Department’s Staff for the quality of the report.

**MOTION:** by Buchanan, seconded by Suter:  
To move acceptance of the 2021-2022 Annual Report as amended.

**VOTE:** Yeas, 7  
Nays, 0

**C. Future Business for October**

- a. Update on Rules and Regulations & Policy for Markers for Persons of Historical Significance
- b. Discussion on Goal Prioritization and Topics for Future Meetings
- c. Planning for Grave Stone Inventory
- d. Other Items for Consideration

**VII. Reports**

- A. Update from Museum Director Leslie Pielack (when applicable)**
- B. Update from Clerk’s Office**

CC Bingham informed the Board that a tree in Greenwood would have to be removed due to recent storm damage and resulting safety concerns.

- C. Financial Reports**
- D. Cemetery Sales & Activity**
- E. City Manager’s Report**

CC Bingham noted that a sidewalk would be added in front of Greenwood.

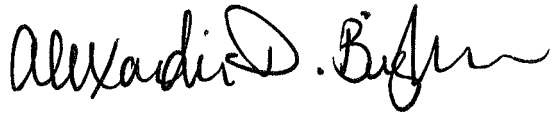
In reply to Board inquiry, CC Bingham confirmed that all attempts would be made to preserve and replant trees during the sidewalk addition.

**VIII. Open To The Public For Matters Not On The Agenda**

**IX Board Comments**

**X. Adjourn**

Chair Buchanan adjourned the meeting at 10:33 a.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alexandria Bingham". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and "B".

Alexandria Bingham, City Clerk

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Laura Eichenhorn". The signature is very stylized and cursive, with a large initial "L" and "E".

Laura Eichenhorn, City Transcriptionist