



CLAY STREET CEMETERY COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – MARCH 6, 2019  
FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
800 CUSHMAN STREET, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA



The **Clay Street Cemetery Commission** convened at 5:10 p.m. on the above date to conduct a Regular Meeting at the City Council Chambers, 800 Cushman Street, Fairbanks, Alaska, with Member Michael Gibson (Seat B) presiding and with the following members in attendance:

Members Present:                   George Dalton, Seat A  
  Frank Turney, Seat D  
  Julie Jones, Seat E

Absent:                               Aldean Kilbourn, Seat C  
  Karen Erickson, Seat F  
  David Erickson, Seat G  
  Jeff Jacobson, Public Works Director

Also Present:                       D. Danyielle Snider, City Clerk

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

a)     Regular Meeting Minutes February 6, 2019

**Ms. Jones**, seconded by **Mr. Dalton** moved to APPROVE the meeting minutes. **Mr. Gibson** took a voice vote, and all members voted in favor of approving the minutes.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Ms. Jones**, seconded by **Mr. Dalton**, moved to APPROVE the agenda.

**Ms. Jones** requested that “Informational Signs” be added to the agenda as Unfinished Business item b. **Mr. Gibson** took a voice vote on the approval of the agenda, as amended, and all members voted in favor of approving the agenda.

**EVENTS & PUBLIC RELATIONS**

**Mr. Turney** asked whether a member is assigned to handle public relations. **Ms. Jones** stated that she has not heard anyone say that they would like do that.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

a)     Review of Placement Policy & Application

**Ms. Jones** stated that she did not complete her homework on the policy and application. Clerk Snider reported on the phone conversation she had with Chair Kilbourn. She stated that Chair Kilbourn would like for the Committee to come up with a draft of the policy and application and have the City Attorney review the document for legality. Ms. Snider stated that she has spoken with the City Attorney, and he is willing to do that. **Mr. Gibson** stated that burial restrictions are

strict for cadavers but not for ashes. **Ms. Jones** stated she would recommend that urns be buried 24" below the ground surface. **Mr. Gibson** asked whether the policy specifically restricts a body from being buried at the cemetery. **Ms. Snider** pointed out that the policy states that the cemetery was closed to burials in 1996. **Mr. Gibson** spoke to the possibility that families who have been a part of Fairbanks for many years may request to bury family members at the cemetery; **Ms. Jones** stated that if families have purchased plots, they should still be able to use them. She stated that she would like to postpone the item to the next meeting so that she has time to do some work on the policy.

**Mr. Turney** shared that the remains of the person whose body was dug up from the cemetery then reinterred have still not been identified. He stated that no one should be allowed to remove any remains from the cemetery. He stated that he plans to meet with a man from UAF to try to verify whether the remains are male or female.

b) Informational Signs

**Ms. Jones** referenced the handouts regarding high pressure laminate signs and steel mounting posts. She explained that these types of signs are being used in national parks. She stated that the posts are made from durable steel, and they have been used in the greenspace in downtown Fairbanks. She explained the dimensions and setup in greater detail. **Mr. Gibson** stated that the signs would have names of people who are buried at the cemetery but whose precise burial location is unknown. He stated that the signs resemble the ones made for the Pioneers of Alaska. Members discussed ways to mount the posts into the ground. **Mr. Gibson** stated that he spoke with Mr. Plaquett about getting the signs made through the labor union apprenticeship, but the man who had been previously involved has retired. **Ms. Jones** stated that the cost of a sign would be about \$197, and she has asked for updated pricing. She stated that she could check with Interior Welding to see if they could provide a quote for the stands, and she could bring back more information to the Commission. She stated that prices seem reasonable.

**OPEN AGENDA**

**Mr. Gibson** stated that he spoke on the phone with Chair Kilbourn, and she has vetted 18 of the 24 names for the marker order; however, she has not been able to verify her list with Ms. Erickson. He stated that Chair Kilbourn will continue to work on the list.

**Mr. Turney** stated that the Clay Street Cemetery was mentioned at the theatre above the Co-op. **Ms. Jones** stated that it was at the Community Museum. **Mr. Turney** stated that Irene Sherman was quite a character and was the last person buried in the cemetery in 1995. Members reminisced about Irene Sherman and Eva McGown. **Mr. Gibson** stated that there are a lot of things from the Nordale Hotel at the Pioneer Museum.

**Ms. Jones** stated that the Committee will talk more about the Memorial Day cleanup at the next meeting. **Mr. Gibson** stated that the cleanup day is scheduled for Saturday, May 18. He stated he will check to ensure that the day will not be in conflict with the Roll Call Dinner that he is chairing.

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next regular meeting of the Clay Street Cemetery Commission is scheduled for April 3, 2019.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Mr. Dalton**, seconded by **Ms. Jones**, moved to ADJOURN the meeting. Hearing no objection, the meeting was ADJOURNED at 5:30 p.m.

  
Aldean Kilbourn, Chair

  
D. Danyielle Snyder, City Clerk

Transcribed by: DS