



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



The **Clay Street Cemetery Commission** convened at 5:00 p.m. on the above date to conduct a Regular Meeting at the City Council Chambers, 800 Cushman Street, Fairbanks, Alaska, with Chair Aldean Kilbourn (Seat C) presiding and with the following members in attendance:

Members Present: George Dalton, Seat A
 Frank Turney, Seat D
 Karen Erickson, Seat F

Absent: Michael Gibson, Seat B
 Julie Jones, Seat E
 Vacant, Seat G

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

a) Regular Meeting Minutes October 2, 2019

Ms. Erickson, seconded by **Mr. Dalton**, moved to APPROVE the Regular Meeting Minutes of October 2, 2019.

Chair Kilbourn called for objection, and hearing none, so ORDERED.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Erickson, seconded by **Mr. Dalton**, moved to APPROVE the Agenda

Chair Kilbourn called for objection, and hearing none, so ORDERED.

COMMUNICATIONS TO COMMISSION

a) Jack & Charlotte Wilbur Marker Request from Jack Wilbur

Chair Kilbourn reported on the Request for Marker Placement of Jack and Charlotte Wilbur.

Ms. Erickson, seconded by **Mr. Dalton**, moved to APPROVE the Request for Marker Placement of Jack and Charlotte Wilbur.

Chair Kilbourn called for objection, and hearing none, so ORDERED.

EVENTS & PUBLIC RELATIONS

Chair Kilbourn proposed a schedule for work parties to take place in April, and she asked that everyone think of dates that will work if the weather is warm. She reported she had no response from the Boy Scouts Office in regard to the Clay Street Cemetery and requests for services.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a) Marker Placement Order – 2018 Bed Tax Funds

Chair Kilbourn reported that the 2018 Bed Tax Funds paid for the markers they ordered, but they also had enough to purchase more rack cards with the correct photo accreditation to Frank Turney.

- b) Private John White

Mr. Turney stated he continues to work on correcting the headstone of Private John White, and he would have more information at the next meeting.

- c) Desiree Williams Information Request, Ernest J Couse

Chair Kilbourn read an email written by Desiree Williams about her relative Ernest J. Couse. **Chair Kilbourn** stated she did not know how to follow up on the request and asked if anyone had any ideas.

Commission members discussed cemetery history and sources of records that would relate to its history. **Chair Kilbourn** shared some of the research that she has been doing and other events relating to cemetery history.

Ms. Jones asked whether the American Legion is supposed to put a religious symbol on Private White's grave marker, and **Mr. Dalton** asked whether he had any family they could ask. **Mr. Turney** stated he had no contact with the family. **Ms. Jones** stated she would find out if the dog tags can be inset in the marker. **Mr. Turney** stated the dog tags are with Deputy Clerk Braniff.

NEW BUSINESS

- a) December 4, 2019 Meeting

Chair Kilbourn asked members whether they felt a December meeting was necessary.

Ms. Erickson, seconded by **Mr. Turney**, moved to CANCEL the Regular Clay Street Cemetery Commission meeting of December 2019 and schedule the next meeting for January 8, 2020.

Chair Kilbourn called for objection, and hearing none, so
ORDERED.

- b) Spring 2020 Work Parties

This item was discussed earlier in the meeting.

c) 2019 Bed Tax Funds – Photos of Cemetery for Display

Commission members discussed what they should do with the funds. Photo markers and display format were discussed. **Ms. Erickson** stated she has relentlessly searched for photos and shared a photo that she managed to secure.

Members discussed old photos and ways to find more photos that could be displayed at the cemetery. **Ms. Erickson** shared her frustration with how difficult it is to find old photos of the cemetery, and **Chair Kilbourn** stated she was considering asking the News Miner to put something out to the community requesting photos to be used for historic signs. Commission members approved of Chair Kilbourn leaving no stone unturned while looking for historic photos. Members spoke at length about the archives process at the University and shared frustrations about the University's policy to not keep photos from cemeteries.

OPEN AGENDA

Members discussed some of the marker requests that have been received by the Commission.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next Regular Meeting of the Clay Street Cemetery Commission is scheduled for Wednesday, January 8, 2020.

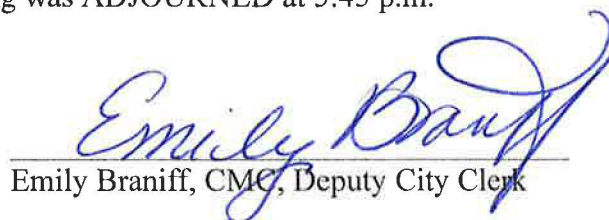
ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Erickson, seconded by **Mr. Turney**, moved to ADJOURN the meeting.

There being no objection, the meeting was ADJOURNED at 5:45 p.m.



Aldean Kilbourn, Chair



Emily Braniff, CMC, Deputy City Clerk

Transcribed by: EB