



City of Racine Meeting Minutes Board of Cemetery Commissioners

City Hall
730 Washington Ave.
Racine, WI 53403
www.cityofracine.org

Monday, May 21, 2007

4:30 PM

City Hall, Room 304

Call To Order

Staff: Steve Bedard, Donnie Snow, Dawn Lackey

Guest: Chris Mekus

PRESENT: 4 - Sharon Baldukas, Margo Drummond, Vilas Lund and Dale H. Slaasted

EXCUSED: 1 - Sandy Weidner

Approval of Minutes for April 16, 2007 Meeting

to Approve the Minutes

Burial and Revenue Report

Reports were distributed.

The Report was Received and Filed

Financial Report

The Report was Received and Filed

Cemetery Projects

Discussion was held regarding the fence at Mound Cemetery. Bedard reported that Kinzie Avenue is done and 12th Street is about 3/4 done. Snow said funds are depleted for this year but it is in the project for next year.

Moved by Baldukas to Receive and File

The Report was Received and Filed

Old Business

07-0463

Subject: Cemetery Audit is now complete and will be presented to the Board of Cemetery Commissioners for review.

Recommendation:

04/16/2007 - The Mayor will be calling a meeting of the whole to discuss the Audit.

Recommendation of the Board of Cemetery Commissioners 5-21-07: that the item be deferred

Snow said he had not yet heard when the Committee of the Whole would meet. Consultants are looking for a date to schedule based on vacation time.

Slaasted moved to defer the issue to the next regular meeting. Passed unan.

Deferred

07-0466

Subject: Discussion regarding the Mekus studios Crypt Design.

Recommendation:

04/16/2007 - Mr. Mekus from Mekus Studio Crypt Design presented the Commission with some preliminary ideas and design work for the Mound Cemetery crypt project including the following:

- * A Topographic survey now underway.
- * Possible inclusion of interior crypts in the chapel area.
- * Utilization of the pond area.
- * Uses for the stone left.
- * Possible adaptations of the Fountain and the reflecting pool surrounding it.
- * Redoing the existing ramp and stairway.
- * The construction of 3 new crypt buildings to the west of the existing ones.
- * The possible use of ground markers in the area around the fountain.
- * The inclusion of niches in the side walls of the new crypts.

He explained that the project could be doing in phases with Phase I adding 450 new crypts and Phase II (3 buildings on the West) 990 Crypts. He asked the Commission to consider building materials (which will affect the budget), how best to restore the fountain, a time frame for going forward, and issues related to future phases. The commission let Mr. Mekus know that they were please with the direction the design work was going.

Receive and file.

The Crypt/Niche Design Plan was passed out. It will be handicap accessible. Indoor washrooms will have to be looked at which are on lower level. A chair lift will be installed. Mr. Mekus passed out booklets showing update and enhancements. The buildings will be simplified by making them straight trapezoid shape and not curved. There will be the same number of crypts.

Restoration of the fountain was discussed. It may be two tier depending on cost. The top of the fountain, eight points trickle to the bowl. The outer is thought to have a reflecting pool. Mekus is proposing to use the existing pool with adjustments.

Phase 1 is the stairs/elevator and lower level crypts/niches. Phase 2 is the upper level, crypts, niches.

Mekus will analyze to justify cost and maintenance of installing elevator vs. handicap ramp.

Adding three new buildings at the upper level will impact a couple of mature trees. This will allow 985 niches and crypts.

The new double depth crypts would have a green roof.

Slaasted asked Mr. Mekus to come back to next month's meeting for a possible walk through at the Cemetery.

Mr. Mekus indicated the fountain would not be dwarfed by the new buildings. The mechanics for the fountain will be new.

The Chapel room was discussed - the room would be converted to hold glass fronted niches in the middle of the room.

Discussion was held regarding oversize crypts disposition. Mekus said it is not a problem.

Receive and file the update on the Cemetery Crypt Design and Fountain Restoration.

Slaasted moved to have Special Board meeting on June 11, 2007 at 4:30 p.m. at Mound Cemetery. Passed unan.

Received and Filed

New Business

07-0616

Subject: Communication from the Washington Park High School Pom-Pon Squad requesting permission to use the parking lot at the northeast corner of Washington Avenue and West Boulevard for a car wash fund raiser. (Also refer to Cemetery Commission) Jill Jarapko invited to the meeting.

Recommendation of the Board of Cemetery Commissioners 5-21-07: that the request be denied.

The Washington Park High School Pom-Pom Squad requested the use of water from the Cemetery. Snow stated that the water would cost about \$1.20 for four hours if running continuously. Slaasted said this may set a precedence. Baldukas said that Ald. Weidner had no objections.

Slaasted moved to deny the request. Ayes, 3 (Slaasted, Drummond, Baldukas), No's, 1 Lund Passed

Recommended For Denial

Adjournment

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.