

City of Racine

*City Hall
730 Washington Ave.
Racine, WI 53403*



Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 16, 2006

4:30 PM

City Hall, Room 103

Board of Cemetery Commissioners

*Sharon Baldukas, Margo Drummond,
Vilas Lund, Dale H. Slaasted,
Alderman Sandy Weidner*

Call To Order

Meeting called to order at 4:32 p.m.

Staff: Steve Bedard

Donnie Snow

PRESENT: 5 - Sharon Baldukas, Margo Drummond, Vilas Lund, Dale H. Slaasted and Sandy Weidner

Approval of Minutes for September 18, 2006 Meeting

An objection to approval of the September Minutes was raised by Margo Drummond - this was the second time she had not received her minutes. A discussion followed. It was decided by the commission that the minutes should be mailed out earlier and the agenda passed out at the meeting.

Dale Slaasted made a motion that the July and September minutes be approved, the motion was seconded by Sandy Weidner.

to Approve the Minutes

Reports

To accept the monthly reports for July, August and September.

Adopted

Old Business

06-2517

Variance in Monument Rules.

Subject: Jim Anspaugh from Meyers Monument request variance in monument rules

Supervisor Bedard presented a written proposal for allowing granite bases to be used at Graceland Cemetery. Questions were raised by Commission members as to the cost of such bases, how many monument dealers would be involved etc. On a motion by Dale Slaasted and Seconded by Vilas Lund It was agreed to keep the rules at Graceland regarding granite slabs the same not allowing them.

Recommended For Denial

06-2520

Rules & Regulations Booklet

Subject: needed changes to the Rules & Regulations Booklet.

Supervisor Bedard informed the Commisison that changes to the booklet were not yet ready. On a motion by Sandy Weidner Seconded by Dale Slaasted, the item was deferred to the November Meeting.

Deferred

06-2522 **Monthly Reports****Subject:** Monthly report for July 2006

On a Motion by Alderman Weidner and Seconded by Dale Slaasted, the monthly reports for July, August and September were accepted.

Recommended to be Received and Filed**06-2523** **Monthly Report****Subject:** Monthly report for August 2006

On a Motion by Alderman Weidner and Seconded by Dale Slaasted, the monthly reports for July, August and September were accepted.

Recommended to be Received and Filed**06-2519** **Road Repair****Subject:** Road Repair will begin September 19th at the Graceland Cemetery entrance.

Commissioner Drummond asked Director Snow to check on whether the \$20,000 for road repair had come out of the Cemetery Maintenance Fund. On a Motion by Dale Slaasted, Seconded by Chariman Baldukas, the item was recieved and filed.

Recommended to be Received and Filed**06-2521** **City Buildings in the Cemeteries****Subject:** Use of City Buildings in Cemeteries the Commission is looking for a written policy for the use of City Buildings within the Cemetery.

It was noted that Supervisor Bedard will no longer be available to open the Chapel unless he chooses to volunteer to do so. He can, however, be required to be present if he is given Compensatory time. Director Snow said that at most Saturday burials, Supervisor Bedard will be present. Alderman Weidner inquired about the part time hours having been eliminated on Saturday, and how having kept them would have allowed for the office to be open on Saturday mornings.

Director Snow said that descision regarding Saturday hours was a policy made by the Commission. Alderman Weidner said that the Commission was never told of the elimination of these hours, nor of the Saturday house sent to the Funeral Directors by Mr. Bedard.

Director Snow said he was responsible for the Saturday burial time schedule and that he would work with the Commission to improve it.

Received and Filed

New Business

06-2636**Monthly Report****Subject:** Monthly Report for September 2006

Report to be reviewed by the Cemetery Commission Board.

On a Motion by Alderman Weidner and Seconded by Dale Slaasted, the monthly reports for July, August and September were accepted.

Recommended to be Received and Filed

06-2637**Nielsen's Survey**

Subject: Nielsen's Survey regarding survey done of unplotted areas in Mound and Graceland Cemeteries.

It was suggested that Chairperson Baldukas and Director Snow discuss issues related to the Survey. On a Motion by Margo Drummond and seconded by Vilas Lund the item was deferred.

Deferred

06-2638**Grief Warehouse**

Subject: Grief Warehouse requesting use of Mound Cemetery Chapel on December 10, 2006 at 6:30 p.m., letter regarding request (received by mail) to be handed out.

Recommendation: The Cemetery Commission approve the request of the Compassionate Friends for use of the Chapel on December 10, 2006 and further recommend that it be referred to Finance and Personnel for consideration of waiving the fee.

In answer to Chairperson Baldukas's question regarding who would cover the building on December 10 for the Compassionate Friends gathering, Director Snow said that the group should first be informed of the recently implemented Chapel usage fee.

Alderman Weidner moved that the group be allowed to use the Chapel and that the fee be waived. Director Snow asked to Amend Alderman Weidner's motion to include a referral of the waiver to the Finance Committee for their approval or denial. The Amendment was accepted and the motion passed.

Recommended For Further Consideration

06-2639**Volunteer Computer Work**

Subject: Volunteer Computer Work: Item was discussed as a non-agenda item. Item is now open for discussion. Questions regarding item should be referred to file no. 06-2597 supplement to Agenda items.

Vilas Lund asked why this effort had been discontinued. Chairperson Baldukas explained that she had secured two enthusiastic volunteers from a group that does non profit volunteer work. Following removal of the computer previously used for this work Supervisor Bedard did not want his or Laurie's computers used by volunteers. Despite the fact that the third computer was then returned, after talking with Mr. Bedard, both volunteers declined to proceed!

Vilas Lund inquired as to why the two volunteers declined and why, over a 3 year period, so little work had been done. Director Snow said that Laurie should be working on the archive materials related to this program. Director Snow said he would talk to Supervisor Bedard about why the volunteers declined. He suggested that volunteers from Make a Difference Day might be recruited in the future. On a motion by Vilas Lund, Seconded by Margo Drummond, the item was deferred.

Deferred

06-2641**Decorative Fence at Mound Cemetery**

Subject: Decorative Fence at Mound Cemetery: Item was discussed as a non-agenda item. Item is now open for discussion. Questions regarding item should be referred to file no. 06-2597 supplement to Agenda items.

Vilas Lund asked why the \$20,000 designated for the fence fund in 2006 was not listed in the budget? Director Snow said it might be that the budget information given the Commission was only preliminary but that he would check on the matter and speak with Commissioner Lund the following day.

Received and Filed

06-2642**Tree Trimming Services**

Subject: Tree Trimming Services: Item update of tree removal service for Mound and Graceland Cemeteries was discussed as a non-agenda item. Item is now open for discussion. Questions regarding item should be referred to file no. 06-2597 supplement to Agenda items.

Commissioner Lund noted that a great deal of work on the trees in the cemeteries needed to be done. He also asked if the \$10,208.00 budget item listed as land improvement was for tree care. Director snow and Commissioner Lund would discuss the matter further by phone. On a Motion by Chairperson Baldukas and Seconded by Margo Drummond the matter was received and filed.

Received and Filed

06-2781

Supplement to Agenda Item

Subject: Supplemental Information stated under 06-2522 not pertaining to the legislative file.

Attachments: [COMMISSION MEETING OCTOBER 16.doc](#)

Deferred

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 P.M.

declared the public hearing closed