

**CITY OF JACKSONVILLE
CEMETERY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

Regular Meeting, January 7, 2019

New Jacksonville City Hall

1) Call to Order:

Meeting called to order by Chair Siedlecki at 4:30 p.m.

Attending: Chair Siedlecki; Members Athnas, Carr, Carter, Levin and Visser; Sexton Shields; and Liaison Casaleggio

Absent: None

Visitors: Liaison-designate Donna Bowen

2) Chair welcomed those present and each introduced themselves.

3) Public Comment: None

4) Follow-up of October 15, 2018 meeting items:

a) Chair stated that the work of restoration of the Cemetery gates was completed and additional reflectors would be added to more adequately mark the gates at night, the reflective tape having proved insufficient. He stated that the existing white bollards had been painted with one coat of black paint to match the gates and another coat would be applied when weather permitted. Sexton displayed the round metal caps to be installed on the bollards.

b) Chair discussed the apparent lack of foundation on a recent grave in the Jewish Section's Feldman plot. Member Visser indicated that after contact with the family, it was determined that a foundation was present and the issue resolved.

c) Chair stated that the denial, based on non-conforming style and maintenance issues, of a birdbath marker in the Taylor plot, City Section, had been communicated to the family. Sexton indicated that a permanent monument in conventional style would be placed.

d) Chair reported that curbing in the Beach Block, City Section, had been completed. Sexton added that bark had been placed instead of proposed rock.

e) Chair indicated that the Kiosk project, including installation of the open-sided, gazebo next to the Interpretive Center was proceeding with HARC approval expected. The Kiosk plans also include creating a Cemetery directory, organized alphabetically by names and keyed to sections, blocks to assist visitors in finding graves. This project would begin with the City Section and be expanded to the other Sections.

5) Action/Discussion Items:

a) Chair announced that Member Carr was now officially the Odd Fellows Section's full time representative with Jim Simpson becoming the alternate representative.

b) Chair reported that the only significant storm damage was a large pine tree breaking off and falling on Cemetery Road and adjacent fencing in the Odd Fellows Section. There was some discussion about the extreme difficulty in finding replacement "double loop" fence wire to restore the damaged fence.

c) Sexton stated that the request from Amilia Romo for curbing around Plot 5, Block 111, City Annex was honored and work completed.

d) Sexton discussed road grading and drainage work in the Cemetery around the maintenance shop, which was done to correct issues raised by the adjacent subdivision development work. Responding to Chair's question, Sexton hoped that the work would be done within the next month, workloads permitting.

e) Chair discussed major accomplishments of 2018, including over 1600 hours of volunteer time, exclusive of docents' work and work related to planning and executing History Saturdays, Tuesday Evening Strolls, special tours and the Meet the Pioneers presentation in October, which numbered hundreds of additional hours. Meet the Pioneers netted about \$4000 profit which will be used for continued restoration and the Kiosk project. Chair reflected on the successful restoration of 41 markers, 11 of which were recovered from storage and replaced in the original locations.

f) For 2019, Chair offered that the well-attended History Saturdays and Tuesday Evening Strolls would continue in May through August of 2019. Member Levin asked about repairs to broken concrete in the Masonic Section. Chair replied that finding experienced masons to do the work was very difficult, but efforts would be made to locate a responsible contactor. Chair indicated that a significant project to do restoration work at the Mary Theresa Hanna grave in the Catholic Section would begin with acquiring \$2500 of sandstone and work to be done by volunteers. Also, work would be completed on the Roundbush plot by relocating the vehicle-damaged brick curbing and marker stone. Finally, a new brochure featuring Cemetery Civil War veterans will be completed and produced for distribution.

6) Other:

a) Sexton stated that he would be placing "Exit" signs in the Cemetery, to assist those, particularly those attending funerals, in finding their way out.

7) Next meeting; Adjourn:

The next meeting will be Monday, April 8, 2019 at 4:30 p.m. at New City Hall. The meeting was adjourned at 5:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Casaleggio, Liaison