



PINEWOOD CEMETERY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
 Minutes of December 4, 2017 Meeting, 3:30 p.m.
 Historical Resources & Cultural Arts Department
 2327 Salzedo Street, Second Floor, Coral Gables, Florida 33134

*Historical Resources &
 Cultural Arts*

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MEMBERS

D J F M A M J J A S O N D APPOINTED BY:
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Martin Mendiola*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	P Mayor Valdés -Faulil
Mary Lynch*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	P Vice-Mayor Pat Keon
Alexis J. Ehrenhaft	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	P Comm. Frank Quesada
Janet M. Nostro	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	P Comm. Vince Lago
David Mitchell	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	P Comm. Michael Mena
Jeanne Batridge	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	A City Manager
Vacant	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	Board-as-a Whole

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Dona M. Spain, Historic Preservation Officer
 Kara N. Kautz, Assistant Historic Preservation Officer
 Yesenia Diaz, Administrative Assistant

A = Absent; P = Present; E = Excused
 + = No Meeting; * = New Appointment
 = Resigned Member; # = Late Arrival

RECORDING SECRETARY/PREPARATION OF MINUTES: Yesenia Diaz, Administrative Assistant, Historical Resources & Cultural Arts

The meeting was called to order by Chair Nostro at 3:44 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 6, 2017 MEETING:

A motion was made and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of the February 6, 2017 meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

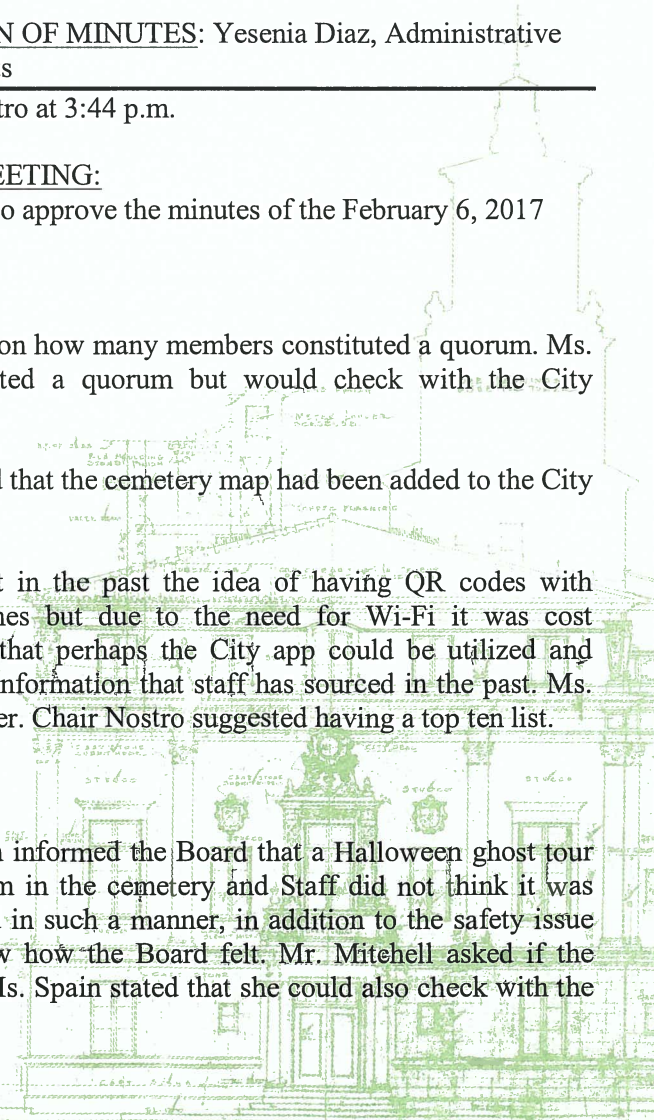
Quorums: Ms. Nostro asked for clarification on how many members constituted a quorum. Ms. Spain believed that four members constituted a quorum but would check with the City Attorney's Office to verify.

Cemetery Map: Ms. Spain informed the Board that the cemetery map had been added to the City website.

Self-Guided Tour: Ms. Kautz explained that in the past the idea of having QR codes with information about the individual grave stones but due to the need for Wi-Fi it was cost prohibited. It was suggested by Ms. Kautz that perhaps the City app could be utilized and displaying the brochure on along with other information that staff has sourced in the past. Ms. Spain stated that it could be investigated further. Chair Nostro suggested having a top ten list.

NEW BUSINESS:

Halloween Tours in the Cemetery: Ms. Spain informed the Board that a Halloween ghost tour had been given by the Coral Gables Museum in the cemetery and Staff did not think it was appropriate that the cemetery was being used in such a manner, in addition to the safety issue after Hurricane Irma. Ms. Spain didn't know how the Board felt. Mr. Mitchell asked if the Board could take a position on the manner. Ms. Spain stated that she could also check with the City Attorney's office.



Ms. Kautz informed that no big trees had been brought down by the cemetery. Chair Nostro asked if any headstones were damaged. Ms. Kautz stated that no headstones were damaged and no trees uprooted.

The Board continued to discuss the matter at length. Ms. Spain suggested that the Board give it some thought and discuss it further at the next meeting. Mr. Mendiola stated that a motion should be made.

A motion was made and unanimously passed stating the Board's position not supporting the manner in which the Cemetery was used to ghost tours for Halloween.

A motion was made and unanimously passed in support of the Cemetery being used for educational purposes.

Tree markers: Ms. Kautz informed the Board that the tree marker project would continue once the City recovered from Hurricane Irma as Public Works was working on the recovery efforts in other locations. Ms. Kautz stated that 50 markers were still pending being put back into place. The possibility of hiring an outside vendor to plant the markers was suggested by Ms. Spain as Staff did not have the ability to put it in due to the hard coral rock underneath the soil. Ms. Ehrenhaft asked who the vendor might be.

Mr. Mitchell suggested using the Eagle Scouts as it would present an opportunity for a project for them. The Board discussed the possibility of perhaps having the Eagle Scouts identify the various plants around the cemetery.

Ms. Kautz presented an example stake to the Board.

The Board continued to discuss the tree markers. Ms. Spain suggested using Deena Bell, Landscape Project Coordinator, for the City. The Board reached an agreement to contact Deena Bell in order to identify the plants.

Pioneer Day Guest Speaker: The Board discussed getting a speaker for the Pioneer Day event giving praise to past speakers. Ms. Spain stated that a speaker would have to be found. Mr. Mitchell suggested possibility contacting Deena Bell to be the guest speaker to the event and talk about the native species of plants at the event. The Board and Staff agreed with his suggestion. Staff would reach out to Deena.

Board Vacancies: Ms. Spain informed the Board that Marie Vacca had been contacted but was not interested in being on the Board. She also stated that Marlin Ebbert had been reached as well but she was not interested. Ms. Spain suggested that if the Board knew of anyone that might be interested in serving on the Board to let her know.

CITY COMMISSION UPDATE: None

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 4:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Dona M. Spain

Historic Preservation Officer and Secretary to the Board