

PINEWOOD CEMETERY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Minutes of April 13, 2009

405 Biltmore Way, First Floor Conference Room

Coral Gables, Florida

MEMBERS

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COMMISSIONERS

Patricia "Pat" Clarke	P	+	+	+	P	+	P	+	P	A	+	P	Mayor Donald D. Slesnick, II
Tim Crowther	P	+	+	+	P	+	P	+	P	P	+	E	Vice-Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr.
Sandra Cummings	E	+	+	+	P	+	P	+	P	P	+	P	Commissioner Maria Anderson
Thomas E. Lodge	E	+	+	+	P	+	A	+	P	P	+	P	Comm. Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.
Father Sean O'Sullivan	E	+	+	+	E	+	E	+	P	P	+	P	Comm. Wayne "Chip" Withers
Kemal Rajib	P	+	+	+	P	+	P	+	P	A	+	P	City Manager David Brown
Louan Zagarino	P	+	+	+	P	+	P	+	P	P	+	P	City Commission

A = Absent

P = Present

E = Excused

+ = No Meeting

*** = New Appointment**

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Kara Kautz, Historic Preservation Officer

RECORDING SECRETARY/PREPARATION OF MINUTES: Nancy C. Morgan, Coral Gables Services, Inc.

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Zagarino called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 9, 2009:

A motion was made to approve minutes of the regular meeting of February 9, 2009 with one change: eliminate asterisks by names on attendance list. The motion was seconded and passed.

II. MEETING ATTENDANCE:

A motion was made, seconded and passed to excuse the absence of Mr. Crowther.

III. OLD BUSINESS:

Pioneer Day 2009: Ms. Zagarino expressed appreciation to Board members for their efforts before and during the March 21 Pioneer Day. Despite rain and the illness and absence of Harriett Liles, the event was deemed a success, and former Mayor Dorothy Thomson was praised for her 11th hour participation in place of Ms. Liles. Approximately 75 people attended, and the Miami Herald Neighbors published an article featuring the event. Notes of appreciation were sent to Ms. Thomson, Michael Mitchell and George Mitchell.

Grave Markers: Ms. Zagarino reported that all grave markers were installed except the Walker marker. The balance of the invoice will be paid. The Villagers will reimburse the City for the expense after receiving confirmation of the Trust Fund's/City's payment of the marker invoice.

A discussion was held about having additional markers prepared, during which time Ms. Clarke recommended developing a plan and various options were explored. Ms. Zagarino was given a list of the most important graves by Ms. Liles, which could be marked in their order of importance.

Ms. Kautz reported that previous boards reached out to as many heirs and relatives of plot owners and Cemetery “residents” to gain their support and participation, with very poor results. She advised that it might be most wise to restore existing markers before installing new ones, and emphasized the iconic monument for restoration. Ms. Zagarino will research marker restoration specialists, and will also determine costs to restore the Crockett markers. She also recommended that Board members review Ms. Liles’ book prior to facilitate selection of markers appropriate for restoration.

Villager Benches: The Villagers indicated a preference for at least one bench in the Cemetery, and will provide their logo and preferred wording. Ms. Kautz will verify cost of benches.

Tree Markers: No report in the absence of Tim Crowther.

IV. **NEW BUSINESS:**

Review of Board Appointments:

Ms. Kautz explained Board service appointments and term limits. Current appointments will remain in place until or unless new appointments are made. Discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

Meeting Dates: Upcoming meeting dates were determined as follows:

- Monday, May 11, 4:00 p.m.
- No meeting in June, July, August
- September 14, 4:00 p.m.
- November 9, 4:00 p.m.

Trees: Referencing Mayor Slesnick’s talk at Pioneer Day about planting trees, Mr. Lodge advised that the Australian pines should be eliminated, and recommended installing native slash/Dade County pines in place of inappropriate, overlarge trees such as the Australian pines. Cost to remove Australian pines was estimated at about \$2000 each. Ms. Kautz will ask Public Service Director Dan Keys if they would remove and plant trees, which Mr. Lodge would supervise. Ms. Clarke suggested installing a memorial marker, inscribed with names of donors of planted trees.

Mr. Lodge made a motion to adopt a program by which native pine rockland tree species will replace inappropriate existing trees in the Cemetery, and that such program could be funded, in part, by people desiring to have a memorial. The motion was seconded and passed.

The next meeting will be held Monday, May 11, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. City Hall Conference Room

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kara N. Kautz
Historic Preservation Officer and Secretary to the Board