

Meeting Minutes

City of Newnan Farmer Street Cemetery Commission Monday, October 7, 2024 VIRTUAL (ZOOM)

Members: Loren Taylor, Christina Joseph, Alison O'Rourke, Jordan Marchman

Staff: Hasco Craver

Guests: Kayla Davidson (POND), Danny (AAA), Buck (AAA)

1. The meeting was called to order by Loren Taylor at 6:04pm.
2. Alison O'Rourke made a motion to accept the August 2024 meeting minutes. Christina Joseph seconded the motion. The motion carried.
3. Continuing Business
 - a. Kayla Davidson presented 60% Construction Documents to the commission for review and confirmation. Kayla Davidson showed the commission the site plan, which reflected the improvements that have been discussed by the commission. Kayla mentioned that a few trees were needing to be removed on the periphery of the site to accommodate stormwater infrastructure needs. Kayla described the timber-edged mulch trail section locations as well as the small concrete section of trail. Alison O'Rourke asked how many signs are included in the project. Hasco Craver mentioned that the current contract included two story-board type signs. Kayla Davidson mentioned that the signs will be located at the outdoor classroom area and at the entry to the cemetery. Hasco Craver noted the opinion of probable cost at \$1,470,659, if constructed in/by 2026. Loren Taylor asked for clarification on the turnaround's ability to accommodate a school bus. Kayla Davidson was fairly certain it would accommodate a bus, but would check to make certain. The commission was excited about the progress of the plans. Hasco Craver mentioned that the commission will need to request funding from the City Council to advance the plans to a 100% Construction set, which allow City staff to bid out the construction.
 - b. Loren Taylor asked for a summary of the previous meeting's discussion about naming the location. Hasco Craver read from the previous meeting minutes. In summary, the commission preferred changing the name from the "Farmer Street Cemetery" to a new name utilizing the term "burial ground" instead of "cemetery." Loren Taylor asked the commission members for their opinion. Christina Joseph mentioned that she thought an appropriate name is the "Newnan Historic African American Burial Ground." Jordan Marchman mentioned that he liked the name, but it seemed long. Loren Taylor asked if Kayla Davidson could provide a mockup of the signage showing the proposed name. Kayla Davidson confirmed that she could provide the mockup. Alison O'Rourke mentioned that

she liked Christina Joseph's suggestion and would like to see it in a mockup. Alison O'Rourke asked in their was discussion about using the term "Farmer Street" at the previous meeting. Loren Taylor mentioned that the street was not in place at the time that the cemetery was originally laid out. Christina Josphe made a motion to suggest to the Newnan City Council that they change the name of the location from the "Farmer Street Cemetery" to the "Newnan Historic African American Burial Ground". Alison O'Rourke seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- c. The commission discussed presenting the documents, requesting additional funding to complete the construction documents and suggesting a name change to the Newnan City Council in October.
 - i. Hasco Craver, in an email on Tuesday, October 8, 2024, suggested that the commission present the documents as is, suggesting the name change and requesting additional funding at the October 22, 2024 City Council Meeting. A majority of commission members confirmed their support of the presentation to Council at the October 22, 2024 meeting.
4. The meeting was adjourned at 6:59pm.

**Next Meeting:
November 4, 2024
Newnan City Hall
6:00pm**