

Cemetery Advisory Board Meeting
Tuesday, May 20, 2025 @ 6:30 PM
Red Bank Lion's Club
3704 Dayton Blvd,
Red Bank, TN 37415

Call to order: Sal Arrigo, Jr. – chairperson, Jennifer Webster – secretary, Angela Schmidt, Ronda Basner, John Shearer, Samantha Doss, Susan Bell

Recap of Decoration Day, April 26, 2025, comments:

- It went well was the consensus of the committee. There weren't a lot of family members of cemetery residents, but there were a few.
- We probably won't do a big event like this each year.
- Having coffee and doughnuts was a good choice.
- In the future, we could do a cleanup day and then lay flowers out at the end of the day. Historically, decoration days were a time for people to clean the graves and lay flowers.
- The publicity went out too late for people to plan to attend. If we do this again, the committee should handle the publicity a month or more in advance.
- Tables and chairs and speeches wouldn't be necessary in the future.

Voting on potential new member Rhonda Basner. Rhonda has lived in Red Bank since September 2024. In Georgia, Rhonda sat on the board of the Funeral Consumers Alliance. It is an education on funeral practices and funeral options available in the area. She also teaches an art class titled, "Deathcoupage." Rhonda likes to make people aware of options available after death and to be prepared for the end of life.

The board unanimously voted for Rhonda to become a member of the Cemetery Advisory Board, and her application will be sent to the city soon.

Election for a new chairperson: keep this position open for now. It could possibly be a co-chair position in the future.

Election for new secretary:

Angela Schmidt was nominated and seconded and unanimously voted in as new secretary.

Next board meeting to be scheduled for September 2025.

Future workday – tentatively scheduled for October 11, 2025, 9 AM – Noon.

Future board meetings to be determined as deemed necessary.

Additional comments – Sal spoke with Martin Granum, Red Bank City Manager, on placing three permanent street signs directing people to the location of the Red Bank Cemetery.

If there is money in the city budget for a permanent bronze sign at the entrance to the cemetery, then the Cemetery Advisory Board will oversee the writing of the inscription. There was a brief discussion on developing a QR code so that locating a grave would be simplified.

The committee discussed creating a “Story Map” that gives the location of the known graves, and also for the committee to develop a pamphlet outlining the stories of people buried at the cemetery who played a significant role in the development of Red Bank, TN and other noteworthy figures.

The committee still needs to decide the type/style of grave marker for those graves that remain unmarked.

Two benches may be placed at the cemetery in the future.

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Webster, Secretary
Cemetery Advisory Board
City of Red Bank, TN