



**CITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS
CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEETING**



**CITY HALL
550 LANDA ST**

THURSDAY, JULY 24, 2025 at 4:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A) Discuss and consider approval of the June 26, 2025 [25-903](#)
minutes of the Cemetery Committee

4. CITIZEN'S COMMUNICATIONS

This time is for citizens to address the Board on issues and items of concerns not on this agenda. There will be no Board action at this time.

5. DISCUSSION AND ACTION

- A) National Register nomination [25-904](#)
B) Field of Graves [25-905](#)
C) Reprint of the Cookbook [25-906](#)
D) Comal Cemetery Street Signage [25-908](#)
E) 2025 Soul Searching Event [25-907](#)

6. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

No action may be taken.

7. ADJOURNMENT

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify the above Notice of Meeting was posted on the bulletin board at the New Braunfels City Hall.

Board Liaison

NOTE: Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aids or services such as interpreters for persons who are deaf or hearing impaired, readers, or large print, are requested to contact the City Secretary's Office at (830) 221-4010 at least two (2) work days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

7/24/2025

Agenda Item No. A)

PRESENTER:

Chad Donegan, Parks Director

SUBJECT:

Discuss and consider approval of the June 26, 2025 minutes of the Cemetery Committee

DISCUSSION:

N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

CEMETERY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Thursday, June 26, 2025 @ 4:00 pm, City Hall

1. **CALL TO ORDER:**

4:02 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL:**

X	Lynn Thompson (Chair)	X	Cynthia Foster		Jeff Bransford (Park Staff)
X	Dana Watson (Vice Chair)	X	Jillian Bliss	X	Samantha Morrison (Park Staff)
	Kyle Coker	X	Chad Donegan (Park Staff)		Gene Bagwell (Cemetery Manager)
X	Connie Krause		Geronimo Aguirre (Park Staff)	X	Hunter Haberly (Cemetery Sexton)
X	Jan Kingsbury		Shari Silvio (Park Staff)	X	Bernadette Faust (TCI)

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. Approval of regular meeting minutes from April 24, 2025

4. **CITIZEN'S COMMUNICATIONS**

Citizen Attendance: Loyce Schmick

Loyce expressed interest in the *Field of Graves* project, citing a family connection through her great great-grandparents who are buried there. She is considering a donation and has previously spoken with Jeff Bransford about it.

5. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

a. National Register Nomination of the New Braunfels Cemetery

Katie Totman is still working on the National Register Nomination. She had delayed sending the form to the committee, hoping to complete it on her own, but will let the group know if she needs assistance. The committee has requested to review the nomination before it is submitted, so Chad will reach out to Katie and ask her to send it out for review prior to submission.

b. Field of Graves

Bernadette provided an update on the MHS design concept and opened the floor to discuss design inclusions. She conducted research using Oscar Haus' *History of New Braunfels* and church cemetery records. Recommendation: Use these records as the foundation while also acknowledging unknown names. Chad discussed previous MHS design submissions that were rejected and emphasized the need for a better approach to inclusivity. Group deliberated on the implications of listing only some names, potentially alienating families. Bernadette emphasized balancing the project's budget with its goal to honor the unmarked graves.

All members agreed to proceed with a design that focuses on the collective story rather than listing specific names. The memorial will include a reference to the cemetery database for those interested in learning about individual names. Final designs will be presented to the committee for approval.

c. Cemetery Software

Natalie provided an informational packet but was unable to attend. The group will review the materials and discuss at the next meeting.

d. 2025 Soul Searching

Tour planning begins in July. Golf carts are reserved and paid for. Tickets go on sale August 15th.

Script progress: Lynn has finished hers; Dana has one left, and Connie is also working on hers.

The tour route and entertainment options were discussed, including the possibility of a skit by Jillian and Jan has volunteered to take over sponsorship efforts in July

Important Dates: Run-through scheduled for Tuesday, September 30th (calendar invite to be sent). At the next meeting the group will finalize soulmates, complete scripts, and further discuss props.

e. Gate at the New Braunfels Cemetery

The new cemetery gate has been installed and is fully operational.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- A. National Register Nomination
- B. Field of Graves
- C. Reprint of the Cookbook
- D. Comal Cemetery Street Signage
- E. 2025 Soul Searching

6. ADJOURNMENT

5:19 pm



Cemetery Committee Agenda Item Report

550 Landa Street
New Braunfels, TX

7/24/2025

Agenda Item No. A)

PRESENTER:

Katie Totman, Historical Preservation Officer

SUBJECT:

National Register nomination of the New Braunfels Cemetery



Cemetery Committee Agenda Item Report

550 Landa Street
New Braunfels, TX

7/24/2025

Agenda Item No. B)

PRESENTER:

Chad Donegan, Director

SUBJECT:

Update on Field of Graves



Cemetery Committee Agenda Item Report

550 Landa Street
New Braunfels, TX

7/24/2025

Agenda Item No. C)

PRESENTER:

Chad Donegan, Parks Director

SUBJECT:

Reprint of the Cookbook



Cemetery Committee Agenda Item Report

550 Landa Street
New Braunfels, TX

7/24/2025

Agenda Item No. D)

PRESENTER:

Chad Donegan, Director

SUBJECT:

Comal Cemetery Street Signage

7/24/2025

Agenda Item No. E)

PRESENTER:

Chad Donegan, Director

SUBJECT:

2025 Soul Searching Event