



Cuyahoga County Monument Commission

Minutes

August 22, 2025

8:30 AM

County Administration Building, Room 5-006

Call to Order – Meeting of Friday, August 22, 2025

Patrick Hewitt called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m. Roll call showed a quorum.

Attending –

Patrick W. Hewitt

Joseph Nanni

Juan Quirarte

Matt Rymer

Patti Choby

Dr. Judith G. Cetina

Absent –

Thomas Yablonsky

Guests –

Annette Linden, County Planning

Mark Heidorf, County Law

Virtually –

Kaitlin Durbin, Plain Dealer

1. Minutes – July 9, 2025 meeting minutes approved. On a motion by Patti Choby, seconded by Matt Rymer, to accept the minutes as written, the vote was unanimously approved.
2. Public Comments – Patrick Hewitt welcomed Kaitlin Durbin from the Plain Dealer for a potential article on the work of the Cuyahoga County Monument Commission.
3. Siegel and Shuster Tribute Plaza Recap and Updates: Patti Choby, Juan Quirarte, and Patrick Hewitt were able to attend and stated that the tribute plaza ribbon-cutting event was very positive. Patti suggested that the

speeches by Councilperson Pernel Jones and Executive Chris Ronayne be added to the website and the Commission archives.

4. Monuments Survey (Assessment & Maintenance Program): Matt Rymer announced that a Notice to Proceed was given to McKay Lodge for three (3) task orders.

- Mural Assessment \$13,266.00
- Sculptures Assessment \$20,345.00
- Stone Assessment \$9,085.00

The initial task orders total \$45,716.00, and there is \$42,284.00 remaining in the account.

5. Addition to Monument Inventory – Patrick Hewitt will be ensuring the Siegal & Shuster Tribute Plaza has been added to the McKay Lodge inventory for maintenance.

The Cuyahoga County Court of Appeals has possession of “The Color Guard” and “The Advanced Guard” pieces, which need to be researched for ownership. The pieces appear to be miniatures of the Soldiers and Sailors Monument. Dr. Judith Cetina will contact Greg Palumbo about the pieces, and Joseph Nanni will continue researching any history on their location and ownership.

6. Public Comment Plan and Website Updates – It was suggested that a public comment and question page be added to the website. In the future a dedicated page for new monuments and projects can be used for better communication with the public. Patti Choby will draft a process for what the page would look like and formalize a public comment plan for the body to review.
7. Goods and Welfare – It was suggested that the next meeting include an after-action review to go through the application process and contract for future updates. Further, Commission members should outline the process for how to approve small changes. A robust process may need to be added to the Bylaws.

Joseph Nanni spoke on the budget and how the assessment will be needed before going before Council for future allocations.

8. Adjournment – With no further business to discuss, Patrick Hewitt adjourned the meeting at 9:12 a.m.