Ordinance – Roseland Cemetery

Ordinance designating as an Historic Landmark a property known as the “Roseland Cemetery” (including all landscape features and the land identified as “CEMETERY” on the attached unrecorded map by R. B. Pharr & Associates dated 02-26-1976, File No. W-351, and listed under Tax Parcel Number 213-231-01 in the Mecklenburg County Tax Office, Charlotte, North Carolina as of July 1, 2012). The property is owned by Evelyn Renfrow Rogers, Administrator for the James M. Renfrow Jr. Estate, Myrtle Linda Renfrow Rick, Thomas Alfred Browne Jr., and Merrie Jane Pierce, and is located at 10252 Monroe Road, Matthews, North Carolina.

WHEREAS, all of the prerequisites to the adoption of this ordinance prescribed in Chapter 160A, Article 19, as amended, of the General Statutes of North Carolina have been met; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Matthews, North Carolina, have taken into full consideration all statements and information presented at a public hearing held on the 27th day of August, 2012, on the question of designating a property known as the Roseland Cemetery as an historic landmark; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission have taken into full consideration all statements and information presented at a public hearing held on the 13th day of August, 2012, on the question of designating a property known as the Roseland Cemetery as an historic landmark; and
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WHEREAS, the Roseland Cemetery is a large rural African American cemetery that contains graves dating from the late 19th century until the mid-1950s; and

WHEREAS, the Roseland Cemetery is located in an otherwise highly-developed section of Matthews and is one of the few reminders of the rural farming community that once stretched along Monroe Road between Matthews and Charlotte; and

WHEREAS, the Roseland Cemetery is one of the few extant reminders of the African American rural experience in Mecklenburg County in the years following Emancipation through the last decade of Jim Crow Segregation; and

WHEREAS, the property known as the Roseland Cemetery is owned by Evelyn Renfrow Rogers, Administrator for the James M. Renfrow Jr. Estate, Myrtle Linda Renfrow Rick, Thomas Alfred Browne Jr., and Merrie Jane Pierce.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the members of the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Matthews, North Carolina:

1. That the property known as the “Roseland Cemetery” (including all landscape features and the land identified as “CEMETERY” on the attached unrecorded map by R. B. Pharr & Associates dated 02-26-1976, File No. W-351, and listed under Tax Parcel Number 213-231-01 in the Mecklenburg County Tax Office, Charlotte, North Carolina as of July 1, 2012) is hereby designated as an historic landmark pursuant to Chapter 160A, Article 19, as amended, of the General Statutes of North Carolina. The location of said landmark is noted as being situated at 10252 Monroe Road in Matthews, North Carolina. Features of the property are more completely described in the Survey and Research Report on the Roseland Cemetery (2012).
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2. That said designated historic landmark may be materially altered, restored, moved or demolished only following issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission. An application for a Certificate of Appropriateness authorizing the demolition of said landmark may not be denied, except if such landmark is judged to be of State-wide significance by duly authorized officials of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History. However, the effective date of such Certificate may be delayed in accordance with Chapter 160A, Article 19, and amendments thereto, and herinafter adopted.

3. Nothing in this ordinance shall be construed to prevent or delay ordinary maintenance or repair of any architectural feature in or on said landmark that does not involve a change in design, material or outer appearance thereof, nor to prevent or delay the construction, reconstruction, alteration, restoration, demolition or removal of any such feature when a building inspector or similar official certifies to the Commission that such action is required for the public safety because of an unsafe condition. Nothing herein shall be construed to prevent the owner of the historic landmark from making any use of the historic landmark not prohibited by other statutes, ordinances or regulations. Owners of locally designated historic landmarks are expected to be familiar with and to follow The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings, the guidelines used by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission to evaluate proposed alterations or additions.

4. That a suitable sign may be posted indicating that said property has been designated as an historic landmark and containing any other appropriate information. If the owner consents, the sign may be placed on said historic landmark.
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5. That the owners of the historic landmark known as the Roseland Cemetery be given notice of this ordinance as required by applicable law and that copies of this ordinance be filed and indexed in the offices of the Town Clerk, Building Standards Department, Mecklenburg County Register of Deeds, and the Tax Supervisor, as required by applicable law.

6. That the property which is designated as an historic landmark shall be subject to Chapter 160A, Article 19, of the General Statutes of North Carolina as amended, and any amendments to it and any amendments hereinafter adopted.

Adopted the 24th day of September, 2012, by the members of the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Matthews, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

[Signature]
Clerk of the Board

Approved as to form:

[Signature]
Town Attorney