

PRINCE GEORGE'S CHAPEL CEMETERY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 19, 2017

The meeting was called to order by President Gayle Chandler at 2:07 p.m. in the Dagsboro Town Hall. Members present at the meeting were Meri Jo Montague, Brian Baull, Cindi Brought, Patti Adams, and Bob Flowers; Melody Chandler was connected via speaker phone.

It was moved by Melody and seconded by Patti to approve the November 19, 2017, agenda; the vote was unanimous.

It was moved by Patti and seconded by Meri Jo to approve the minutes of May 7, 2017; the vote was unanimous.

Cindi went over the treasurer's report and budget. A decision was reached by Cindi and the committee officers to close our Bank of Delmarva savings account and transfer its funds (\$2202.50) to our Bank of Delmarva checking account. A \$32,693.52 CD was coming due at the same time, so it was rolled over less \$2693.52, which sum was placed in the checking account. This was done in order to pay bills coming due. The cemetery now has a checking account and three CDs. A discussion ensued over whether the cost of a plot should be increased. Cindi will check around.

There was no outstanding correspondence except from the Delaware Preservation Fund.

Meri Jo reported on events happening at the Chapel.

Cindi asked the Bunting family to take care of their plot, and they did so promptly.

Gayle discussed the cemetery website improvements and thanked Megan for her work. Sandi Gerken is going to add information about the Chapel to the town's website.

The Bireley and Farmer families have plot issues; this was discovered by Melson Funeral Services. A Farmer burial has been placed within the Bireley plots. Cindi

talked to Joanne Bireley; Joanne hopes that this can be worked out without exhuming the Farmer burial. Bob said another issue concerns trees that have put their roots in some plots. This is certain to cause future burial problems by rendering the plots unusable. In the eastern section of the cemetery there are brick vaults that are disintegrating due to age and weather. No one knows if there is any family around since most of the names on the monuments are illegible. Installing fencing along the state side of the old cemetery is not eligible for a Delaware Preservation Fund grant. The Dagworthy Monument is in good shape according to Bob after it was repaired by Kurt Czapp. The deadline for the grant is December 15 which means the application and relevant photographs have to be submitted soon. Cindi said the Delaware Preservation Fund claims that the town has funds from last year; Cindi is going to contact them to ask why they believe this is true since the town has no knowledge of any such funds in the cemetery account. It was decided to apply to the Delaware Preservation Fund for monies to repair the brick vaults in the eastern side of the cemetery. A motion was made by Patti and seconded by Meri Jo to apply for funds to repair the brick vaults in the eastern side of the cemetery; the vote was unanimous.

Everyone discussed ideas to fundraise. Gayle mentioned checking the current market value of a plot in Sussex County. Gayle said putting donation requests in a more prominent place on the website might be helpful. Patti thinks we should send donation letters to anyone with family interred in the cemetery. She was asked to head up a sub-committee to find addresses. Cindi has volunteered to write the donor request letter. Brian has thought about having pencil sets made with wood salvaged from the trees after they have been trimmed; St. Georges UME Church has done this to raise funds. Patti suggested a brick sale for the Chapel and the cemetery. Cat's Meow-like decorations were suggested; the Chapel had one commissioned in the past. Brian says that you have to be careful about how many you order of anything, because you have to sell them, which may take time.

A motion was made by Patti and seconded by Cindi to adjourn the meeting; the vote was unanimous. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

