

Minutes of November 21, 2021 Meeting

Prince George's Cemetery Committee

I. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by President Gayle Chandler at 11:31 a.m. in Dagsboro Town Hall.

Those in attendance were: President Gayle Chandler (via phone), Mayor Brian Baull, Janice Kolbeck, Melody Chandler, Patti Adams, and Town Administrator Cindi Brought.

II. Approval of Agenda:

Janice Kolbeck made a motion to approve the agenda. Patti Adams seconded the motion. All were in favor.

III. Approval of Minutes:

November 10, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Melody Chandler made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Janice Kolbeck seconded the motion. All were in favor.

IV. Treasurer's Report:

Town Administrator Brought stated that the financials have been run from November 8, 2019 through November 19, 2021. Included you will find a detailed printout of the bank account showing deposits, donations, interest and checks that were disbursed. Ms. Brought stated that on the donations, the Town usually gives \$500 but it was missed last year and therefore this year the Town donated \$1,000 to make up for it. The grass cutting was much cheaper this year with David Gray versus when the prisoners did it and town maintenance has been taking care of the cemetery décor and leaves, etc.

V. Correspondence:

Gayle Chandler stated that the first letter was received in July from Candace Gasko in regard to an Atlas Preservation Workshop that they were doing this summer and maybe one in late September. On April 19 received an invitation from Adrienne Donaway to Georgetown and Millsboro area cemeteries to have their tombstones cleaned. On October 27th received a letter from the Cooper's Family Cemetery in Camden inquiring if anyone has experienced problems gaining access to a cemetery that is surrounded by private property. She stated that if anyone is interested in this subject an email could be provided.

VI. Reports of Officer, Representatives and Town Administrator:

Ms. Montague and Mrs. Gerken were not present. Patti Adams and Gayle Chandler had nothing to report.

VII. Old Business:

a. Cemetery and Chapel Driveway

Town Administrator Brought stated that the driveway was corrected at one point with dirt which has already deteriorated. She reached out to Betsy Gant who stated they would get on it and consider another material.

b. Chapel Cemetery's Exposed Grave

Town Administrator Brought stated that Betsy Gant is not her contact for this matter, but that she would reach out to her and see who she is supposed to talk to in regard to the exposed grave and the timeframe for the repair because Town Maintenance took pictures last week and nothing has been done.

c. Delaware Preservation Fund's Application in 2019

Town Administrator Brought stated that she did not apply for the problem areas with the fence because when she talked to Town Maintenance he stated that there were still posts and fencing in storage that he could use to make the repairs versus trying to replace the entire fence. Janice Kolbeck agreed with Ms. Brought that if the material is there and he is willing to make the repairs to allow him to take care of it. Melody Chandler asked about the cost associated with him doing the work. Ms. Brought stated that he just does it on a regular basis at no extra cost for working with the town.

d. Farmer/Bireley Resolution Letters

Town Administrator Brought stated that this has been rectified. The letters were sent out and all signatures were obtained. Dr. Farmer's family is all on one side instead of two on one side and two on the other side. The Bireley's moved to the other side.

e. Tunnell Tombstone Cleaning Letter

Town Administrator Brought stated she and Brian have not heard anything else from him, but her personal opinion is that each family should be responsible for the care of their own monuments. If we allow someone to come in and clean them and something happens it could come back on the town.

f. Jayne Doukes Willey Letter

Town Administrator Brought stated that she spoke to Ms. Willey on the phone and explained to her that there was a miscommunication. Friends of Prince George's nor the Cemetery Committee were aware of anyone taking care of her mother's grandparents graves and putting flowers on and that if someone was doing that, they were not from either committee and were being genuinely nice. Ms. Willey felt that it was the responsibility of the Town or the Cemetery Committee. Ms. Willey was disappointed when she was advised that this was incorrect and it was not anyone from the Town, Friends of Prince George's, or the Cemetery Committee. Ms. Brought stated that she accepted that.

g. Cemetery Maintenance

Town Administrator Brought stated that the grass cutting and weed whacking was by David with Gray's Creative Touch. She and Town Maintenance walk the cemetery to determine if something needs to be removed due to its condition.

VIII. New Business

a. Tree and Fence Damage in August 2020

Town Administrator Brought stated that there are pictures from the storm damage, but basically all damage repairs fell on the Friends of Prince George's Chapel. Mayor Baull stated that it was taken care of. They repaired the fence once, but it was not aligned properly so therefore he contacted them again and they did come back out and fixed it.

b. Bartlett Tree Experts and the Red Oak on Ward Lane

Mayor Baull stated that we received an estimate from an arborist to take care of this tree due to its age. Town Administrator Brought stated that the Red Oak had dead branches that were hanging over Ward Lane. Due to the safety issue it was decided to have Bartlett Tree Experts give an assessment. The tree was treated for disease and the dead branches were removed. The branches that still overhang Ward Lane are live and they will not remove those.

c. Missing Corner Markers

Town Administrator Brought stated that Calvin Ward stopped in Town Hall and said that back in the 70's the town had removed two of his corner markers. Because this was so long ago she had to do a lot of research on it. Anyone that was here with the town back then has since been deceased. We did contact Sipple and Mr. Ward did purchase four corner markers but there is no proof that they were installed and we have no idea who pulled them if they were in fact installed or why they would have been pulled. Ms. Brought stated that she has no idea why he waited until now; he is getting up in age and just wants it taken care of. She advised him that

he may have to pay for them and he became very angry so therefore she presented to it Town Council and they approved for the Town to pick up the cost of \$212.50 for the two corner markers. Mrs. Chandler asked where the funding comes from and asked if comes from the General Fund and Ms. Brought stated "yes." Mrs. Chandler asked what happens if this problem arises again. Mayor Baull stated that we would address it on a case by case basis.

d. Election of Officers and Representatives

Patti Adams nominated Brian Baull as Council Cemetery Representative. Janice Kolbeck seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Janice Kolbeck nominated Sandy Gerken as Prince George's Chapel Representative. Patti Adams seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Patti Adams nominated Janice Kolbeck as Vice-President. Melody Chandler seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Melody Chandler stated that she would take the position only because no one else will do it and if anyone from the community joins and wants to take over she would be happy to work with them over it.

Patti Adams nominated Melody Chandler as President. Janice Kolbeck seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Janice Kolbeck nominated Gayle Chandler as Secretary/Treasurer. Patti Adams seconded the motion. All were in favor.

IX. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacy West

Town Clerk