

**2014 MINUTES  
Of The  
Annual Methodist Cemetery Association Meeting**

The 2014 Annual Meeting of the Methodist Cemetery Association was called to order at 2:14 p.m. on May 18, 2014.

Those present were Diane Tamayo, Steve Davis, Dorothy Ford, Kathy Hardy, Nancy Werner, Ellen Joyce, Margaret Amundson, Charlie Carroll, and Jane Waldmann (non-member).

After a collection of dues it was determined that a quorum of members in good standing was present.

It was unanimously voted that the minutes of the last Association Meetings need not be read.

The Treasurer's reports for the last few years was distributed as well as the proposed budget for 2014/2015 years. The new budget was approved by unanimous vote.

It was brought to our attention that the Treasurer of the Association, Amy Patterson (now O'Keefe) needs to be replaced. Kathy Hardy volunteered to accept this position. She was appointed to the Board by unanimous vote.

A discussion was held concerning an amendment to the bylaws of the Association regarding proxy votes. It was decided that rather than establishing a policy of proxy voting, we could send out absentee ballots to members in good standing when a quorum at meetings could not be obtained and there is urgent business to be conducted. We are hopeful that something can be set up.

The subject of tombstone repair was raised. There are two memorials that need attention. The stone for Laura T., wife of Wm. C. Cornell, is broken in half, and the adjacent stone (Rosa D., first wife of Wm. C. Cornell along with their baby, Marion E. Cornell) also needs resetting. Diane will look into obtaining estimates on the repairs. The poor condition of some of the tombstones, as far as legibility of inscriptions, was also discussed. It was brought to our attention that our cemetery is now an historic site, so we need to be cognizant of that fact when talking about replacements or additions of monuments. Diane mentioned that some cemeteries place a plaque in the ground in front of the stone, which repeats the original information on the stone. <See subsequent info from a meeting with the DC Historic Preservation cemetery expert.>

Due to severe winter weather, there has been some tree damage. An estimate has been received from Bartlett Tree Experts in the amount of \$951.75. It was decided that unless a lower estimate from a reputable firm is received, Bartlett Co. will

proceed with the work that needs to be done. (This work is in the approved budget.)

A benefactor of the cemetery, Nellie Burrows Morrison, died at the age of 108 last September. She left the cemetery a bequest of \$1,000. She was connected to the Duvall, Queen and Burrows families in the cemetery.

The date for the next annual meeting of the association was established: Sunday, May 17, 2015. This is the Sunday after Mother's Day & before Memorial Day weekend.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15.

Respectfully Submitted,

DOROTHY FORD  
Recording Secretary

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As indicated above, Diane Tamayo and Jane Waldmann of the Tenleytown Historical Society met on May 29<sup>th</sup> in the cemetery with Anne Brockett, Architectural Historian from the DC Historic Preservation Office. She indicated that many of our illegible tombstones are marble and easily cleaned, which she suggested would make them legible again! (Although she is not opposed to the idea of a plaque, should this not work to our satisfaction.) She proposed a "clean-up day" for the cemetery (and offered to help!). Tombstones may be safely cleaned simply with water and a soft plastic-bristled brush. She has information containing instructions for proper tombstone cleaning which she has promised to share with us. Diane suggested that at least a couple of tombstones be cleaned using these methods before a clean-up day is established. Stay tuned to future emails on this and other subjects.