

METHODIST CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING

MAY 21, 2017

The meeting was convened at 2:00 p.m. in the 5th floor lounge of the Friendship House by our president, Diane Tamayo. Dues were collected. Those present included Diane Tamayo, Kathy Hardy, Nancy Werner, Ellen Joyce, Steve Davis, Steve Shoemaker, Martha Shoemaker, Sandy Long, Judy Holzwart, and the representative from the Tenleytown community, Jane Waldmann.

A discussion ensued describing how each member present was related to the ancestors buried in the cemetery. Sandy Shoemaker Long is related through Louis Edwin Shoemaker and Mary Elizabeth Eld's son, Isaac Eld Shoemaker. Nancy Werner and Ellen Joyce are related through Louis Edwin Shoemaker and Mary Eld's son Maynard Parker Shoemaker. Martha and Steve Shoemaker are related through Louis Edwin Shoemaker and Mary Elizabeth Eld's son, Spencer Aquila Shoemaker and his second wife; while Kathy Hardy is related through Spencer Aquila Shoemaker and his first wife. Steve Davis is related through the Riley and Queen families. Judy Holzwart is related through the Donaldson family. Diane Tamayo is related through the Huddleson and Walther families, and indirectly through the Shoemakers.

The minutes from the 2016 meeting were offered and a motion to waive reading them was made, seconded and passed.

All present expressed appreciation for our wonderful new and expanding website. Steve Shoemaker was nominated for lifetime membership in gratitude for all his hours of work involved with this project. Thanks, Steve!

A request was made for nominations to replace Dorothy Ford as corresponding secretary on the Board of Directors. Judy Holtzwart expressed her willingness, and was duly voted into the position. Welcome Judy! And thanks to Dorothy Ford for her long devotion to the cemetery!

Kathy Hardy read the treasurer's reports for the last few years, which show our annual income to be slightly more than our actual expenses each year. The treasurer's report was approved as read. It was noted that in December of last year, the Columbian Harmony Society made a large donation which we are all thrilled about. Many thanks to Paul Sluby and his friends at the Society!

Unfortunately over the winter one trunk of the large tree with (six) multiple trunks came down. This has led to unanticipated expenditures. Mulheron Tree Experts, Inc. was engaged as the cheaper of two estimates and the remainder of the tree was taken down as it was not in healthy condition. They also ground down the stumps, and pruned the

only large trees that are left: the white oak and tulip poplar. These expenditures coincidentally have completely exhausted the generous donation from the Columbian Harmony Society; thank goodness for that donation! Mulheron is also recommending treatment for the white oak to keep it healthy. Martha Shoemaker made a motion to have the white oak treated, Ellen Joyce seconded the motion, and this additional expenditure was unanimously approved.

One tombstone was knocked down and badly broken by the fallen tree, and others need repair. Glen Wallace of Monocracy Cemetery referred Robert Mosko of Mosko Cemetery Monument Services as a conservator of tombstones; this company is also currently working in the Rockville Cemetery, as well. Diane will be checking into pricing and hopefully contracting tombstone repair in the days to come. [Update: Lough Memorials in Frederick, MD \(also currently working in the Rockville Cemetery\) has more recently been contacted and asked for a price quote.](#)

It was recommended and approved that the budget be increased to cover the additional tree work and future tombstone repairs.

It was noted that the irises contributed and planted by Kathy Hardy are doing well and were beautiful this year. Diane also expressed appreciation for Bart Robey and his mother for their help with landscaping: trimming, pruning, weeding and especially attending to the knock-out rose bush which is so beautiful at the top of the wall on 42nd street.

Finally, it was recommended that the bylaws be amended to allow proxy voting. Steve Shoemaker will consult with attorney friends to how to achieve this. A motion was overwhelmingly approved to amend the by-laws to allow proxy voting by a member giving their vote to someone attending the meeting. The bylaws will be amended appropriately. During this amendment, it was recommended that the word "descendants" be changed to "relatives" in the membership requirements.

Diane Tamayo reminded us that she may retire from the association within the next three to four years and that we need to encourage the younger generations to take an interest in the cemetery so that it can continue to be maintained!

The next meeting is scheduled for the third Sunday in May: May 20, 2018.

The meeting was adjourned at 4 p.m.