

METHODIST CEMETERY ASSOCIATION
MINUTES

ANNUAL MEETING, September 12, 2021

The Methodist Cemetery Association met virtually, via Zoom, again this year because of the Covid crisis and for the convenience of our members. The meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m.

Roll call included a report on membership dues. We now have 23 annual members and one new life-time member, bringing the total membership to 36, as we previously had 12 lifetime members. In addition to our president, Diane Tamayo (related to Huddleson, Walther & more distantly – Shoemaker families), the following members introduced themselves: Amy Patterson O’Keefe, (related to the Queen and Burrows families); Bart Robey, of the Robey family; Dan Nielsen, (related to Addison Chappell); Steve Davis, (related to the Queens and Rileys); Kathy Hardy, (related to the Shoemakers and Elds); Nancy Werner, (related to the Shoemakers, Paynes and Elds); Pat Ryan and Roger Pridham, (related to Helen Burke); Steve Shoemaker, (related to the Shoemakers and Elds); Jeanette Pablo, (related to the Queens); John Derrick, (related to the Huddlesons and Robeys); and Donna Griffin and Helen Lidie, (related to the Federlines, Rileys, and Burrows). In addition, 4 members not in attendance sent proxies: Ellen Joyce, Dorothy Ford, Priscilla Ricker, and Robyn Trower. A quorum was present.

The minutes for last year’s meeting were accepted as mailed to the members last fall, and also published on the cemetery website.

The Treasurer’s Report for 2020 was read and approved. Income was from dues, donations and interest. For three years in the past we had received donations from the Columbia Harmony Society, thanks to Paul Sluby, now deceased. We do not expect to be so fortunate in the future. The Treasurer’s Report and budget for the coming year will appear on the members only portion of our website in the near future.

A box of historic documents pertaining to the cemetery was sent by Donald Barnes, the former caretaker of the cemetery who had moved

out west many years ago; and the association paid for the postage. These documents were interesting and will continue to be reviewed.

Several tombstones were repaired this year, and more are in need of repair soon. Discussion followed concerning whether the Association should pay for this or not, and whether not fixing them would contribute to the downgrading of the overall appearance of the area. The members present decided that the Association should continue to maintain these tombstones as long as it had the resources available to pay for these expenses, especially considering the generous donations from the Columbia Harmony Society.

Several trees and bushes are in need of pruning and possibly removal. Pictures were shown of the problems. For the 2022 proposed budget, it was decided to continue to show expenditure limits that are more than projected at this time in order to eliminate the need to reconvene to allow for unexpected events.

A motion was offered and approved to accept the budget.

The Bylaws have been revised to document the approved changes to allow for proxy voting. In addition, provision was included to hold electronic meetings, and remove both the requirement that the Board of Directors meet within 15 days after the Annual Meeting, and that the Annual Meeting be held within 25 miles of the cemetery. There were minor changes as well, the most significant one was to establish a quorum requirement for all meetings.

A motion was offered and approved to accept the Bylaws as amended.

Officers for the coming term are as follows:

President:	Diane Tamayo
Vice President:	Steve Davis
Corresponding Secretary:	Pat Ryan
Recording Secretary:	Nancy Werner
Treasurer:	Kathy Hardy

A motion was offered and approved to accept the officers.

Steve Shoemaker, our Webmaster, is retiring from his day job and plans to devote more time to our website. He plans to put more family stories on the website and members are encouraged to submit more family “tidbits”.

Although we previously decided to contribute records to an archives, nothing has been done so far, due to the pandemic. This is planned to be a central location; American University and the DC Historical Society are possible depositories.

A membership roster including name, address, phone number, and email address is to be established and placed in a “members only” location on the website. Possibly it will also have the family relationships listed too. This is to be accessed with a password. More information will be forthcoming.

The next meeting is planned to be virtual, via ZOOM; with a target date of September 18, 2022.

Diane then showed many pictures of our lovely cemetery and some of its challenges yet to be conquered.

We thanked Amy for allowing us to use her Zoom account and Diane for all her hard work.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Werner
Recording Secretary