The Methodist Cemetery Association
Annual Meeting Agenda
September 13, 2026

I. Call to Order - Diane
The Methodist Cemetery Association Annual Meeting, via Zoom, was called to order at 2:03 p.m. ET by President Diane Tamayo.

II. Roll Call & Establishment of Quorum

A. Report on Membership
Kathy Hardy advised that the Association has twelve Life Members and that dues have been received for 14 Annual Members. (In the week following the Annual Meeting, two new members joined, bringing the total of Annual Members to 16.)

B. Introduction of Attendees
The following Members were present and introduced themselves:
Steve Davis
Kathy Hardy, Treasurer
Dan Nielsen, Recording Secretary
Amy O'Keefe
Bart Robey
Pat Ryan, Corresponding Secretary
Steve Shoemaker
Diane Tamayo, President

C. Establishment of Quorum
With eight members in attendance, and with three proxy voting forms having been submitted, it was determined that a quorum was established and that business could be conducted. The Bylaws require seven voting Members be present to conduct business.

Before the start of the meeting, proxy voting forms were received from:
Ellen Joyce
Jeanette Pablo
Robyn Trower

III. President's Report
President Diane Tamayo advised that the Association had the tulip poplar tree trimmed in 2025. The tree's branches were touching the power lines around the 42nd Street steps. Kathy added that the cost of the tree trimming was $1,850.

IV. Officer Reports

A. 2025 Annual Meeting Minutes
The minutes from the 2025 Annual Meeting were emailed to each Member last fall. The minutes were not posted to the Cemetery's website as of this meeting but have since been added.

B. Treasurer's Report – Kathy Hardy

Kathy reviewed the Treasurer's Report. Of note:

- In response to a question, Kathy confirmed that the Association's fiscal year is the calendar year.
- The domain name and web hosting expenses were pre-paid multi-year agreements and are not reflected as cash expenses in 2025. Those agreements have been renewed in 2026, and the corresponding expenses will be reflected in the 2026 Treasurer's Report.
- A discussion about tombstone repairs ensued. There were no tombstone repair expenses in 2025, and none are projected for 2026. Diane explained that the person who has done past repairs has not been responsive to our recent inquiries. The repairman has provided an opinion on which tombstones should be repaired next, and there is interest in pursuing some repairs. This remains an open item to be further discussed.
- Kathy led a review of 2026 budgeted expenditure limits, which were approved at 9/2025 meeting. Expenses for 2026 are not expected to exceed budgeted limits.

C. 2026 Proposed Budget – Kathy Hardy

Kathy presented the 2027 budgeted expenditure limits and made a motion for approval. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

V. Webmaster's Status Report – Steve Shoemaker

Steve shared that the domain name registration has been transferred from GoDaddy to BlueHost, which is currently the host of the site. A new hosting contract has been signed for 3 years at $239/year. The hosting contract expires in August 2029.

Steve has renewed the name registration through May 2032.

A discussion about a potential genealogy database project took place. It was observed that such a project would require a lot of work, and concerns were expressed about ensuring the accuracy of the information that people shared to be added. Steve noted that the website's Burials page already includes a lot of information (e.g. this person is a son/daughter of…). No action items were identified.

VI. Old Business

A. Increasing Membership

Amy O'Keefe reported that some outreach has been conducted, but it is not clear whether that led to additional memberships. A discussion about collaboration options with The Association of Oldest Inhabitants of D.C. followed. It was agreed and approved by the Board that we will propose a reciprocal sharing of website links. Amy volunteered to draft an email, and Dan Nielsen to review it.

B. Tree Maintenance - $1,850.

Trimming of the tulip poplar tree was discussed in the President's Report section above.

C. Increasing Revenue

A discussion took place that focused on ways to solicit donations from individuals, in particular making note of the Association's status as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization and thus the donations could be tax detectable. It was agreed that a link will be added to the website homepage requesting donations.

D. Archival Project

No additional work was conducted during 2025.

VII. New Business

A. Proposal to send out Dues Notice in Spring
Pat Ryan proposed that annual dues notices be sent out in the spring instead of August/September, in order to separate the timing of membership renewals from the Annual Meeting. The proposal was agreed to unanimously.

B. Future Planning for the Operation of the Cemetery
Dan Nielsen proposed the formation of an ad hoc task force to explore options for ensuring the ongoing viability of the Association. The task force will develop recommendations to be presented to the Board and Membership for discussion and approval.

It was acknowledged that a disproportionate burden of the Cemetery's maintenance and of the operating of the Association falls on too few people, which is not sustainable.

A notice will be sent to Members asking for volunteers to serve on the task force.

VIII. Open Discussion
During the meeting, a discussion of cemetery maintenance took place. Diane indicated that it would be helpful to get a company to assess the cemetery and tell us what needs to be done. It was acknowledged (with gratitude) that Diane and her family have been doing the vast majority of maintenance work. Amy suggested that we should consider paying for an assessment, and consider paying for needed maintenance and move away from a reliance on Diane's family.

Bart volunteered to reach out to some grounds maintenance companies. Amy suggested we explore whether a large company would make an in-kind contribution of the work, as it's a tax write-off,

IX. Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m. ET.