



HOWARD COUNTY CEMETERY PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

3430 Court House Drive ■ Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

Administered by the Department of Planning and Zoning

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March 2021 Minutes

Tuesday, March 9, 2021; 10:00 -11:30 a.m.

Due to the State of Emergency and to adhere to social distancing measures, the bi-monthly meeting of the Cemetery Preservation Advisory Board was not held in the Ilchester room on the 2nd floor at 3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043 but was conducted as a virtual web meeting/conference call. All cases are public meetings unless otherwise indicated. All inquiries should be made to: 410-313-2350.

Members Present: Liz Larney, Chair; Fred Dorsey; Chip Plitt; Michael Bennett

Staff Present: Beth Burgess

Public: Jim DeArmey, Tom Cargiulo

CPAB Business

- Minutes: Ms. Larney asked if the members present had read the January 2021 minutes, and if there were any corrections or a motion to approve them. Mr. Bennett moved to approve the January 2021 minutes. Mr. Plitt seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.
- Ms. Harvey: The Board acknowledged their appreciation for the support Ms. Kaitlyn Harvey provided the last two years in her administrative role.
- Website: The County is launching a new website this spring. CPAB was granted permission to have its own webpage which will be created once the new website is launched.

CPAB Updates

Ten Oaks Cemetery

Ms. Burgess followed up with the developer about the easement access to the burials. The developer said, per the request of the descendants, the two burials were disinterred and reinterred to a cemetery where the family had several empty grave sites. Slacks Funeral Home handled the disinterring. The house lot was sold to a 3rd party purchaser. Ms. Burgess asked where the Scrivnor family was reinterred so that the County's files and GIS layer could be updated and she is waiting for a response. She will follow up with Slack Funeral Home if she does not hear back from the developer.

Mr. Dorsey suggested to inform the Genealogical Society of the relocation since they maintain the burial logs.

(Update after the meeting: St. Mark's at 12700 Hall Shop Road in Highland is the location of the reinterred).

Dorsey of Arcadia

Dr. Cargiulo provided an update to the clean up of Arcadia cemetery. He presented images of the clean up of the crossroads that was full of brush and overgrowth. The perimeter of the cemetery has been cleared more as a

park with benches from Eagle Scout projects. The interior area is filled with overgrowth and invasives like poison ivy and Dr. Cargiulo has been working on removing the invasives and deadwood.

The Board discussed with Dr. Cargiulo the neighbor concerns and trespassing issues and how they have been resolved. The Board took no issue with the progress of the work and noted the lighting in the cemetery is not the purview of the Board.

The Board discussed the return of the historic statue. The Coalition (cpmb.org) resources were suggested to Dr. Cargiulo to assist him in his efforts.

Quaker Hill/Ellicott Brothers/Anderson Cemeteries

A site visit was done with Ken Short to study the new cemetery adjacent to the Quaker Hill cemetery. Mr. Short is starting the documentation process to add to the inventory. Rough field measurements are showing this cemetery is not on the Quaker Hill parcel but County staff believe a professional survey should be done to determine the Quaker Hill property boundaries.

The Board discussed the 2004 Boundary Survey Plan that described the right-of-way and accessibility for the cemeteries. The language on the plan states "Right-of-way of unknown width reserved to benefit the Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends for the purpose of cemetery access binding on the 1st thru 4th lines as described in L.73/ F.3." Ms. Larney said that any parties should seek legal advice but what needs to be considered is the intention of the documents when the easement access was established. Ms. Larney said there is no Code definition for the word "access". Access is for the intention of visiting, maintaining and burying the dead which would have most likely been for foot traffic and carriages. The Board recognized modern vehicles and equipment would require more than a footpath. They discussed what "reasonable access" would be and the timeframes allowed: State park hours, daylight only, 1 hr parking or temporary parking. Ms. Burgess said current cleanup efforts have been more frequent than typical.

The Board discussed the neighbors understanding of accessibility for both cemeteries, noting the neighbors concern for trespassing especially at night, on holidays and Ellicott City events. The Board discussed the neighbors installing a visitor parking sign where it states the temporary access. Mr. Bennett said all cemetery signage across the country are more for visitors with visitation being from dawn to dusk which holds separate the maintenance issue. The emphasis is for visitors. Mr. Bennett and Mr. Plitt suggested Shannon Baum sign makers (<https://shannonbaum.com>) who may provide a standard ready-made sign; they customize signs too. The Board agreed on the suggested signage for the neighbor with the focus being to have daylight access to visitors.

Cemetery, Grant and Maintenance Outreach

DPZ is aiming and planning on \$5,000 for a third grant cycle for FY22. The Board discussed partnering with Genealogical Society. Discussed seeking applications from those sites in dire need of maintenance. The County grant would need to send the opportunity to all cemetery contacts. The grant committee would make the determination of grant recipients based on needs and scope of project.

Board Positions

The Board discussed the Chair position and renewal of roles. The Board thought a vice-chair would be appropriate but there were no volunteers for that role as the two industry representatives should recuse from that role. Ms. Burgess will discuss the possibility of Ms. Kelly being the vice-chair and the Board supported the suggestion. Mr. Plitt motioned for Ms. Larney to remain Board Chair. Mr. Bennett second. Ms. Larney recused. The motion passed with 3 votes.

Board Membership

The Board discussed the recruitment of new members. Ms. Pruim is seeking clarity in roles for the Board so that a press release can be made soliciting the open positions.

Mr. Bennett has invited a few of his colleagues in the profession to apply. He stated Vaughn Greene and Bill Miller of Vaughn Greene funeral services would be great additions to the Board. Either of them would be willing to be the funeral director representative.

Jim DeArme is a retired librarian and researcher that has expressed interest in serving on the Board and has been attending the meetings.

If we have enough interest and applications, then a press release would not be necessary.

Reminder: CPMBS has their annual conference on Saturday, May 1st. This year will be a virtual conference.

Mr. Plitt moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Bennett seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 11:14am.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 11, 2021