



# HOWARD COUNTY CEMETERY PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

3430 Court House Drive ■ Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

*Administered by the Department of Planning and Zoning*

www.howardcountymd.gov  
410-313-2350  
FAX 410-313-3042  
TDD 410-313-2323

## January 2022 Minutes

Tuesday, January 11, 2022; 10:00 -11:00 a.m.

The bi-monthly meeting of the Cemetery Preservation Advisory Board was held virtually as a web meeting/conference call due to the COVID-19 pandemic. All cases are public meetings unless otherwise indicated. All inquiries should be made to: 410-313-2350.

**Members Present:** Liz Larney, Chair; Chip Plitt; Fred Dorsey; Mike Bennett; Roberta Kelly

**Staff Present:** Beth Burgess, Lauren McDonald

**Public:** Kyla Cools, Heritage Coordinator, Patapsco Heritage Greenway

### Board Updates

- Minutes – Ms. Larney asked if the members present had read the November 2021 minutes, and if there were any corrections or a motion to approve them. Mr. Bennett moved to approve the November 2021 minutes. Mr. Plitt seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

### CPAB Administration/Board Updates

- **Baltimore County Genealogical Society & Coalition to Protect Maryland Burial Sites Statewide Cemetery Mapping Project**

Staff attended the November 18<sup>th</sup> informational meeting on the proposed statewide cemetery mapping project. Staff has not heard from the group since the meeting. Ms. Burgess has followed up with the leaders of the group and will update the Board as the project progresses. Meanwhile, Staff is focused on updating and quality control checking our current inventory so Howard County can submit updated information for the statewide mapping project. Ms. Kelly mentioned she also attended the November 18<sup>th</sup> meeting and believes this statewide project will help with burial sites and cemeteries that overlap jurisdiction boundaries.

- **Patapsco Heritage Greenway's Patapsco Valley Heritage Area Cemetery Preservation Program**

Ms. Burgess was contacted by Ms. Kyla Cools, Heritage Coordinator for Patapsco Heritage Greenway (PHG), in the fall. In December, staff received a draft plan from Ms. Cools describing their cemetery preservation program that includes managing, preserving, and interpreting cemeteries in both Howard and Baltimore County. As a part of their plan, they intend to engage and partner with stakeholders one of which is the Board.

Ms. Cools was invited to speak to the Board regarding this project. Ms. Cools described their overall goal to preserve, maintain, and enhance burial grounds and cemeteries in the Heritage area. She described their formal designation as a Heritage Area and the additional funding sources they have access to as a result of this designation. Ms. Cools stated they are a resource for support, research, and funding for cemetery preservation in the Heritage Area. PHG sponsor yearly grants and the state also sponsors a larger grant program that PHG will help potential applicants apply for if they are interested.

Staff will share Patapsco Heritage Greenway's draft Patapsco Valley Heritage Area Cemetery Preservation Program plan with the Board and will continue to update the Board on this project.

- **Ellicott City 250 Anniversary**

EC250 has begun and will run for the entirety of 2022. Ms. Burgess forwarded information on how to register for their newsletter to the Board. Mr. Dorsey and Ms. Kelly have volunteered to help with the events, specifically with the St. Johns cemetery tour. Staff will forward additional information to the Board as it becomes available. Ms. Kelly mentioned she recently participated in an informational EC250 meeting and she pointed Board members to the EC250 website to learn more information about their scheduled events.

Ms. Burgess noted that the executive director of the Historical Society recently stepped down. Mr. Dorsey stated Fred Campbell is the new executive director of the Historical Society.

- **FY22 Grant Cycle**

Ms. Burgess informed the Board that the grant letters have not been sent out due to unforeseen circumstances. Staff will update the grant letters to include information on the Trader Foundation grant deadline of July 1<sup>st</sup>. Staff will work to finalize paperwork with the Genealogical Society and send the grant letters out as soon as possible. Staff will update the Board at the March meeting.

### **Cemetery Updates**

- **Stackhouse Cemetery (#2-3) – 17386 Frederick Road, Mount Airy**

Recent community and neighbor inquiries led to an investigation of the legal ownership of this cemetery parcel. Mapping showed the parcel owned by State Highway Administration (SHA) and a SHA archeologist helped clarify that the parcel is not owned by SHA. The parcel is owned by the Stackhouse descendants and there is a contact from the family working with the community and neighbors. They intend to have a community clean-up of the site. Staff will update the Board if they learn more about the clean-up efforts.

- **Triadelphia Mill Cemetery (no ID) – next to 13471 Triadelphia Mill Road, Clarksville**

Staff and Mr. Dorsey conducted a site visit on November 22, 2021. Remnants of headstones were found in a mulched area in the front yard of the neighboring property. Historic metal end posts to a fence were uncovered in the woods. Evidence in the field and historic deeds confirm this is the approximate location of a cemetery. Staff needs to conduct additional research to learn more about who may be buried there and size of the cemetery. Fortunately, the neighbor is supportive of the County's efforts and learning more about the site. Staff will work to gather more information on the site so it can hopefully be adopted by Council and added to the inventory.

- **Mt. Moriah Oddfellows Lodge 7 (#48-2) – next to 10422 Guilford Road, Jessup**

Ms. Burgess wanted to update the Board on a positive outcome of the recent site visit. At Staff's site visit, a concerned citizen expressed his desire to clean-up and maintain the cemetery which is known to have interred Veterans. The concerned citizen contacted Ms. Burgess to let her know they successfully received permission from the property owner to clean-up and maintain the cemetery on site.

- **Quaker Hill Cemetery (#25-2) – near 3771 Old Columbia Pike, Ellicott City**

At the November meeting, Ms. Burgess informed the Board that the contact for this cemetery recently passed away. In December, Ms. Burgess was contacted by the new contact for this cemetery who is with the Trustees of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, the parcel owner. This cemetery has had a history of conflict related to accessibility stemming from the lack of parking and undelineated parcel boundaries. The owner intends to have a survey done to determine the parcel boundaries and is actively working with the adjacent neighbors to reconcile the accessibility issues.

- **John Day Burial Grounds (#25-5) – near 3715 Old Columbia Pike, Ellicott City**

Ms. Larney recently saw a legal advertisement in the newspaper regarding this parcel and burial grounds. Ms. Burgess explained that the adjacent property, 3715 Old Columbia Pike, has had issues with tree damage to their building adjacent to the parcel over the last several years. Most of the trees causing the damage are located on the John Day Burial Grounds parcel which does not have a known owner. Therefore, the neighbor has had issues receiving the appropriate approvals for the necessary tree trimming. Ms. Burgess is looking further into the situation, but she believes the legal ad is associated with the adjacent neighbor's tree maintenance.

- **St. Mary's Cemetery (#16-1) – near 3006 Pebble Beach Drive, Ellicott City**

Mr. Dorsey recently spoke with Department of Recreation and Parks (DRP), the owners of the cemetery parcel. DRP is planning a cemetery clean-up in March along with ground penetrating radar of the site. Mr. Dorsey will keep the Board informed and DRP state they would send a copy of the ground penetrating radar report to the Board and Staff. Mr. Dorsey stated most of the burials at this site are associated with Doughoregan Manor and is interred with priests and slaves.

## Other

- **General Plan Update**

Ms. Burgess provided an update on Howard County's General Plan. She explained that information on cemeteries and burial grounds in the County are being included in the Plan in greater detail. Specifically, the Plan will discuss African American cemeteries in the County.

- **Coalition to Protect Maryland Burial Sites Update**

Mr. Dorsey informed the Board that two Howard County cemeteries were mentioned in the Coalition's recent update. The Miller Cemetery (#34-1) off Route 108 in Clarksville was brought to the Coalition's attention due to the condition of the property. Additionally, the Coalition mentioned the Guilford Cemetery (#42-4) off Guilford Road in Jessup.

- **2022 Goals**

Staff has several goals for 2022 related to matters of the Board:

- Complete the FY22 grant with the Genealogical Society
- Continue to update and edit the Inventory as needed including adding a few new sites to the inventory via Council resolution
- Create a webpage on the Howard County website dedicated to cemeteries
- Learning more about how to handle abandoned cemetery sites and parcels

**Closing:**

Mr. Dorsey moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Plitt seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Reminders:**

The next meeting will be March 8, 2022 at 10am both virtual and at George Howard Building.