

Committee for the Restoration and Beautification of Randolph Cemetery

Simkins House, 2025 Marion Street, SC 29201

June 12, 2008

6:45 pm – 8:00 pm

Summary Minutes

Attendees: Frank Washington-President, Cornell H. Boyd-Treasurer, Staci Richey, Edwin Martin, Robin Waites-HCF and Emma McGraw Myers-Consultant.

I. Call to Order/Meditation

President Frank Washington called the meeting to order at 6:50 pm at the Modjeska Simkins House, 2025 Marion Street, Columbia and welcomed everyone. Meditation followed. It was noted that several members had called or emailed to express their regrets for not being able to attend today's meeting.

II. Review of the April 10th Minutes

Copies of the April 10th minutes were distributed and reviewed. It was moved and that the minutes be approved as presented. Motion passed.

III. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Cornell Boyd reported on the expenditures to date:

BB&T account balance as of 05/31/08 was \$1,799.65 (No checks written)

First Citizens Bank (FCB) account balance was \$1,085.62:

Expenditures Included:

Grass Cutting/Lawry's \$640.00 (5/19/08)

Tree Removal \$450.00

The report was received as information. It was noted the Mrs. Lawry has taken off the business due her late husband's passing. Ms. Waites requested that the receipts be sent to Historic Columbia for reimbursement. Follow-up still needed on the outstanding storm fee.

IV. Chairman's Report

A. May 1st HCF Preservation Luncheon: Mr. Washington and Emma Myers attend the HCF Preservation Luncheon on May 1st at Trinity Cathedral and presented a wooden box w/ the SC state emblem engraved on top to Senator Kay Patterson. Copies of the program were circulated.

B. Meetings re: City Landmark. Mr. Washington reported on the meetings that he and Ms. Myers had attended re: the approval of Randolph Cemetery as a city landmark. The proposal has passed second reading and will probably be approved within the next couple of months.

C. Appeal to SC Department of Revenue: Mr. Washington stated that he had received a letter from the SC Department of Revenue denying the request for exemption. He said that he would get the letter to Ms. Myers to follow-up.

V. May 7th Roast for Patterson

Mr. Washington reported on the May 7th Roast for Kay Patterson held at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. The Committee presented the Senator w/ a frame photo of him at the Unveiling of the National Historic Marker and a certificate of appreciation along w/ a navy fedora hat—one of his favorites—at the event. The Committee also purchased a table at \$600 and members were invited to sit at the table. Mr. Washington made the presentation to the Senator and was the first toaster. The Roast Program was circulated for information.

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VI. Report of the Eagle Scout Project

Ms. Myers stated that she had met w/ James McCarver, his mother, Dr. Susan McCarver, father, grandparents, three other scouts and a Scout Leader at the Randolph Cemetery on Saturday, May 31st to do a beautification/service project at the cemetery. As a part of his Eagle Scout Project, James and the scouts created a flower bed around the Randolph monument, made and placed a bench and two scrubs under a nearby tree and picked up trash. She circulated photos taken of the scouts and their finished project.

VII. Update from Historic Columbia Foundation

Ms. Waites said that she and Elaine Nichols who was not present due to her travel out of the country were working on getting a study done of the Cemetery to identify unmarked graves. She said that they are also working on the restoration of the monuments and negotiating with three firms in Connecticut, Pennsylvania and Virginia. There are approximately 1500 markers total needing attention. Ms. Waites noted that the Committee needs to take a look at what direction the Cemetery is headed and prioritize the restoration efforts and possibly do the radar penetration assessment first. She noted that Staci Richey was present today from New South Associates. Ms. Richey said that their study of the cemetery should be a valuable resource for the assessment.

VIII. Old Business: Ms. Myers stated that the Committee had voted to move forward with ordering the Cemetery Sign; however, there was some discrepancy with the dimensions and the price quoted. She said that Mr. Palmer had suggested that the Cemetery Committee look at the sign at Palmetto Cemetery to see if they would be interested. Ms. Myers and Mr. Washington agreed to go by the Palmetto Cemetery after the meeting.

IX. Next Meeting - August 14th at 6:00 pm at the Simkins House. (Note: This meeting was cancelled.)

X. Adjournment - Mr. Washington thanked those in attendance and adjourned the meeting at 8:05 pm. Refreshments were served—courtesy of the Historic Columbia Foundation.

Recorded by Emma McGraw Myers
EM Consultants

/emm