

Committee for the Restoration and Beautification of Randolph Cemetery

Historic Columbia Foundation, 1601 Richland Street, Columbia, SC

Meeting Minutes

October 15, 2009

Call to Order

President Carlos Smith called the meeting to order. Carlos then called for introductions of any new members in attendance. Carlos thanked past President Mr. Frank Washington, Dr. Noble Cooper, Mr. E. Palmer Perry in absentia, and Mr. Cornell Boyd for their dedication in resurrecting the Committee for the Restoration and Beautification of Randolph Cemetery and bringing sensitivity to the cemetery.

September 17th Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the September 17th meeting were approved with necessary corrections.

Treasurer's Report

Cornell Boyd reported that the balance in the checking account as of October 1 was \$1,724.58. In addition, there were deposits of \$704.00 for rent, and \$450.00 refunded by the IRS. The balance as of October 15 is \$2,878.58. Mr. Rutherford asked how funds were raised for the Committee. Carlos responded as of now the Committee has no regular source of income and that in order to realize our vision, we need monies from members and friends. Mr. Boyd reported that former Senator Kay Patterson was able to have the state legislature allocate funds in the amount \$350,000.00 for the restoration and preservation of Randolph Cemetery. These funds are being held and administered by the Historic Columbia Foundation for the intended purpose.

Preservation Issues/Cemetery Code

Staci Richey reported that there are two main issues with the cemetery code. They are (1) who will be responsible for receiving Interment forms and (2) designation of a sexton for the cemetery. Maeward and Carlos agreed to be responsible for receiving Interment forms. Carlos wants a copy of the Cemetery Code sent to the membership prior to the December meeting. He also suggested that any forms developed be added to the website. Secondly, the Committee needs to designate a sole person as sexton to oversee the cemetery and for overseeing the opening and closing graves. Mr. John Logan Heyward who was present at the meeting volunteered for this task. Duties for the sexton must be defined before this task can be assigned.

Website Development

Robin Foster-McClure gave a status update on the Randolph website she is developing. She said the site is up and underway. The current web address is randolphcemetery.webs.com. This is a free site for now. Mrs. Foster-McClure is looking for feedback from the committee about what is needed on the site. Comments/suggestions may be sent to robin@reunionboost.com or she may be contacted by phone at (803)477-0204. A logo is in the works. Mrs. McClure will give a PowerPoint presentation or have the actual website ready for viewing at the next meeting.

Landscaping/Grass Cutting Quotes

Staci Richey reported that we have bids submitted from AA Landscaping and Adams Brothers, the current contractor. Carlos suggested that we not vote on the grass cutting contract until the December meeting. Once a contractor has been selected, we will let the membership know our intent. Mr. John Logan Heyward was present at the meeting and expressed his intent to submit a bid for the contracted work. He was told to contact Keilah Spann about submitting a bid.

One of the members present at the meeting was not pleased with the work done by the current contractor. She stated she had been to the cemetery and alleged the work being done was not being properly done. She alleged that heavy equipment was being brought into the cemetery and stones were knocked over. Carlos explained that we would have to establish what the current situation is as opposed to what it was before we can assume that the current contractor is being negligent.

Moratorium Review and Next Steps

Two issues were voted on at the August meeting concerning the moratorium. They were moratorium on active burials and discontinuance of the sale of new plots. The next step is to send notices to local

funeral directors about the moratorium. In addition Carlos asked who has the final authority on the administration of the cemetery. A protocol must be established.

Other

Mr. Boyd reported that Mr. E. Palmer Perry is ill. Mr. Perry is a member of the Board of Directors of the CRBRC, an avid supporter of the Randolph Cemetery project, and a financial contributor.

In addition, Dr. Noble Cooper is ill. Dr. Cooper is Vice President and a member of the CRBRC. He is a long time contributor and supporter of the Randolph Cemetery project.

Next Meeting

December 17, 2009 at 6pm

Carlos Smith, President
Maeward S. Belk, Secretary