

Clayton County Pioneer Cemetery Commission
Meeting –November 11, 2023

The meeting was called to order at the Elkader Genealogy office shortly after 9:00 A. M.

Attending the meeting was Chairperson Lee Embretson and commission members Ellen Collins, Bruce Collins, Sue Meyer and our newest member, David Beck. (David was appointed to the board by the County Supervisors at their meeting on November 07th.) Also attending the meeting was Linda Hauschild, who is interested in the county cemeteries.

The written summary of the visit to the Schmidt Cemetery on Oct 21st was discussed. This was not an official meeting since there was not a quorum present. There being no corrections or additions, Ellen Collins made a motion to accept it, David Beck seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

The agenda for this meeting was then reviewed. Sue Meyer made a motion to accept it as presented, David Beck seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

On the Treasurer's Report, Bruce Collins noted there have been no receipts or disbursements since our last official meeting in September, therefore the balance remains the same as then: County funds \$1,937.25 and Freedom Bank funds \$1,470.64. Ellen Collins made a motion to accept the report, Sue Meyer seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

Chairperson Lee Embretson welcomed Linda Hauschild to our meeting. Linda told us about a summer adventure she and Una Groth had finding or trying to find all the cemeteries in Clayton County. She provided the commission with a listing of all the cemeteries in the county by community.

Next on the agenda was the –Submission of Bills:

Five bills were presented—the first was from Brian Thiese for \$400.00 for mowing the Borcharding Cemetery during the 2023 mowing season. There were two bills from Lee Embretson, one for \$95.89 for supplies to be used at the Garretson Cemetery and another for \$45.66 for reimbursement for mileage. There were two bills from Bruce Collins, one for reimbursement for flowers for \$29.43 for Lee Lenth’s funeral (Lee was a member of the CCPCC until his death on Oct 12th) and another bill for \$57.50 for mileage reimbursement. Dave Beck made a motion to accept these bills for payment, Ellen Collins seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

Ellen Collins presented a summary of where the headstones now are for the Barnum-King Cemetery and other pioneer cemeteries.

Here is that summary of who now has the headstones and where they are from:

Frank Phippen has 8 headstones-- 3 from Barnum-King, 3 from Griffith, 1 from McClelland, and 1 from Garretson. These headstones are all in a shed at the Eastside Cemetery in Elkader.

Sara Gunderson from Monumental Restoration has 6 to 8 headstones from Barnum-King.

Lee Embretson has 2 foot-stones from Barnum-King.

Linda Hauschild has 3 headstones from the Wolfe Cemetery, which is adjacent to her land.

Ellen Collins also said she spoke with Chris Lau about his memories related to the headstones at the Barnum-King site and those stones having been used for purposes other than “grave markers.”

Ellen said the in a discussion with Frank Phippen, he said at the Garretson Cemetery there may be corner markers along the fence line near the road.

On the Chinese Cemetery there was discussion by Sue Meyer and David Beck related to where it is located.

Related to the Schmidt Family Cemetery which was visited by our commission and Schmidt family members on October 21st, Bruce Collins presented a draft of the wording to be used on a sign to be placed at this site. The information on this proposed draft came from historical research done by David Beck. **Sue Meyer made a motion to have a sign made with the same dimensions and format as recently used on other cemetery signs with the wording as presented. David Beck seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.**

There was some discussion related to determining the metal fabricated signs that still need painting. More follow-up is needed to make that determination. *(Six of these metal signs were painted this spring by Reid Koehn: Old Stone, Blanchaine, Hamlet, Krumm, Borcharding and Fry. A seventh sign, the McClelland Sign, was straighten and repainted by friend of the commission, Frank Phippen.)*

There was some discussion related to the Garber Cemetery: a discussion as to where it was and how to get to it. David Beck showed pictures of the cemetery via computer screen.

Related to the Noggle Cemetery in Mallory Twp that was visited by the CCPCC last July 22, there was some discussion about making a sign to be placed at this site.

Ellen Collins said that she has spoken to George Leonard about a cemetery stone that he has. She will follow up on this with George to learn more.

At 10:40 A. M. a motion was made by David Beck to adjourn, Sue Meyer seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

Bruce Collins
Secretary/Treasurer