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## **Agendas, Minutes, and Attachments, 2001**

Woodland Cemetery Stewardship Committee

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The Woodland Cemetery Stewardship Committee met for the first time in the Board of Trustees Conference Room to organize and accept the charge of the Board and President Barker.

President Barker presided and the following members were present: Matt Dunbar, Wil Brasington, Jim Hendrix, Gerald Vander Mey, Tom Wooten, and Bobby McCormick. Don McKale, on sabbatical, was absent.

The Committee began by receiving an explanation of its charge from President Barker:

- The Cemetery is a special piece of earth and it deserves and requires special stewardship
- The Committee must maintain this sacred ground for a Bright future
- The Hill is a remarkable set of contours and views
- The History of the People interred there tells the story of Clemson University
- There is a special obligation about this piece of campus
- There has to be a balance of thinking with head and heart
- We have to be intellectually smart about the management of the property
- This Committee is an advisory group to the President, nothing else
- The creation of this Committee does not disturb the long-standing and proper role of the Trustees in managing the Cemetery
- The President reserves all rights to decision and actions
- This is a long-term effort and the life-term appointment of several members is a symbol of this point
- This is a perpetual effort—a marathon, not a sprint
- The Committee will have to make choices within a defined budget and assign priorities
- The Cemetery is
  - reflective and private
  - personal and contemplative
  - a “room”

The Committee then entered its initial discussions focusing on what it is—defining itself. Issues of people and institutions who might be sources of information and funding were discussed. The notion was agreed that we shall be liberal in our interpretation of “the hill.” Several members expressed the opinion that the trees of the Cemetery, in keeping with its name, are an integral part of its heritage and help create the privacy, solemnity, and intimacy of “a room,” and this in spite or in perfect harmony with its physical proximity to Memorial Stadium. This very proximity creating both opportunities for abuse and reverence that must be carefully considered and cautiously crafted.

We agreed, informally, that there were three current priorities:

- History
- Archeological work

- Development of a master plan in conjunction with the University Master Plan

The idea was raised that the Cemetery should be visually, physically, and conceptually linked with the Mansion. President Barker suggested that a trip to Ft. Hill or Woodland Cemetery should be "one visit."

The Committee then agreed, informally, to take the following actions:

- Create an Inventory of Souls on the Hill
- Create a link/dialog with the University Historian, to the extent that such a person exists
- Buy a tree for Woodland Cemetery \*\* (I don't understand my notes on this point)
- The Committee needs some discipline (I need to define this concept better)

The Committee took the following official actions:

- Jim Hendrix was elected Chairman of the Committee
- Ask Sonya Goodman to be an Ex Officio member and to request that President Barker make this action possible

The Committee agreed to meet on Friday, March 2, 2001 at 4:30 PM in Room 222 Sistine Hall. With no additional matters for the moment, the Committee adjourned.

The Woodland Cemetery Stewardship Committee met for the second time in Room 222, Serrine Hall. Chairman Jim Hendrix called the meeting to order at 4:30 with a cheerful greeting to all present.

Members present included Matt Dunbar, Wil Brasington, Jim Hendrix, Gerald Vander Mey, Tom Wooten, and Bobby McCormick. Don McKale, on sabbatical and out of the country, was absent. The Committee is indeed fortunate that Sonya Goodman has accepted the invitation to be an ex-officio member, and she too was present.

The minutes from the February 2, 2001 meeting were examined, amended, and approved.

The Committee discussed and proposed the following mission statement for itself:

The Woodland Cemetery Stewardship Committee will consider and recommend actions to protect and enhance the integrity, character, and traditions of Woodland Cemetery and its environs.

The Committee tabled discussion on the proposed mission statement until the next meeting.

The Committee then discussed several areas of concern, notably the boundaries of the Cemetery. It was proposed that the Cemetery be defined as all that area bounded on the north by the unnamed road bordering Memorial Stadium, on the east by Williamson Road, on the south by the unnamed road coming off Williamson Road part way down the hill and continuing around the west side bordering on the parking lot adjacent to Perimeter Road. Briefly, it is asphalt to asphalt and all in between surrounding the current Cemetery grounds.

Discussion on this proposed definition of the Cemetery was tabled until the next meeting.

Tom Wooten displayed a number of recent and old aerial photographs of the Hill and its environs which provided insight into the area prior to the construction of Lake Hartwell. He also reported that the pines on the west side of the Cemetery were planted in the 1950s by hand, probably by physical plant employees.

The Committee agreed to commence an information campaign to publicize the presence of the Cemetery Endowment for those who would like to make contributions. This fund is named the Woodland Cemetery Stewardship Committee Fund and is kept by the Clemson University Foundation.

The information would be spread through *Clemson World*, *Inside Clemson*, *Orange and White*,

and other media which would announce also, the existence of this committee.

A partnership with student organizations was discussed, and it was agreed to ask Tiger Brotherhood to become involved via fund raising and other efforts consistent with their mission of supporting the University.

Gerald Vander Mey agreed to set up a project website for all business of this Committee using Buzzsaw.com as the tool. The Committee agreed to ask Liz Newell if she could set up a special section of *Clemson World* to be titled "Cemetery Hill Chronicles" which would contain, in every issue, some history of the Hill or people buried there.

Matt Dunbar agreed to contact the State Archeological Society to determine if there were funds or other support available to continue physical research on the Cemetery.

The meeting adjourned after we agreed to meet again on Monday, March 26, 2001 at 6:30pm.

The Woodland Cemetery Stewardship Committee met for the third time in Room 222, Serrine Hall. Chairman Jim Hendrix was unavailable and, at his request, Bobby McCormick presided and called the meeting to order at 6:30 with a cheerful greeting to all present.

Members present included Matt Dunbar, Wil Brasington, Gerald Vander Mey, and Bobby McCormick. Don McKale, on sabbatical and out of the country, was absent. The Committee is indeed fortunate that Sonya Goodman has accepted the invitation to be an ex-officio member, and she too was present. A guest from the University Central Planning Consulting team, George Mathey was also present along with Barry Anderson from the planning office at Clemson.

The minutes from the March 2, 2001 meeting were examined, amended, and approved.

The Committee then engaged a long and thoughtful discussion of the Cemetery boundaries covering topics including the location proximity to Death Valley, the value of having the public traveling through the various areas of the Cemetery, and the dignity of having large numbers of people walk through the sacred areas of the Cemetery. It was noted that a careful balance is required to insure that the Cemetery is both open, available, but simultaneously respected. Some great care will be required to insure that all three of these objectives are met.

The Committee agreed to submit a map to President Barker, explaining the plan for defining the area of the Cemetery, prior to presenting to him a formal request for a definition of the Hill.

Barry Anderson presented materials with a eye towards a master plan for the Cemetery. Barry fielded many questions of interest to the Committee, and his report stands as a most useful tool for understanding the many issues of topography, landscaping, and care of the Cemetery.

Specifically he discussed:

- a. Football traffic
- b. The concept of rooms and rings in the environs of Woodland Cemetery
- c. Defining the boundaries of the Cemetery
- d. Erosion issues and areas requiring immediate preservation

Next, Matt Dunbar discussed the *Clemson World* news item, and he agreed to prepare a draft of this prior to the next meeting.

At the end of the day, it was agreed by all present that the Committee must, "Create a justification that can withstand careful and broad-based scrutiny for the boundaries we propose."

The next meeting was scheduled for May 9, 2001 in Serrine 222, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.

Conference Call

Members on call: Sonya Goodman, Gerald Van der May, Don McKale, Bobby McCormick, Jim Hendrix.

Jim Hendrix resigned as Chairman due to his relocation to Chicago to pursue education at another seminary of learning. Bobby McCormick was, somewhat reluctantly, elected Chairman.

Discussion followed on several fronts:

1. Need for including an arborist and willingness to fund a tree survey. Discussion tabled to next meeting.
2. Fund raising plan, Jim Hendrix to pursue.
3. Discussed writing letter to President Barker to properly define Cemetery grounds.
4. Discussed need for a permanent endowment of \$40-\$50k. Until fund reaches this level it will be an expenditure fund.
5. Discussed parking near front door of Cemetery.
6. Wil Brasington will continue his work on plaque development.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting time to be arranged.

Location: Gentry Hall

Attending: Bobby McCormick, Matt Dunbar, Don McKale, Tom Wooten, Sonya Goodman, Gerald Vander Mey, and Jim Hendrix (via telephone). Guest in attendance; Barry Anderson.

1. Meeting called to order at 4:30 pm
2. September Minutes approved.
3. Old Business
  - Matt Dunbar was recognized for outstanding efforts related to the articles in Clemson World publication. Next article is to focus on John Logan Marshall.
  - The sketch requested of President Barker of Cemetery Hill is complete. The committee generally agreed that the sketch should be used in the best ways possible including identification and fundraising.
  - The state archeologist will be working with the committee to settle the issue of historic gravesites in the Cemetery. The time necessary to complete the effort could be of fairly long duration, but will be substantially more economical than having a private firm complete the work.
  - Activities Master Plan reviewed by Gerald Vander Mey (attached). Comments were requested.
  - Issues relative to the Physical Master Plan were reviewed by Barry Anderson (attached). Comments were requested.
  - The tree inventory is complete. Adriene Gerus and Gerald Vander Mey to develop a specific plan for implementation.
  - Jim Hendrix reported that there is \$4,738 in the Cemetery Fund account that is held by the Clemson University Foundation. This represents a very significant increase over the previous balance. The Tiger Brotherhood raised \$1,500 through a fundraising effort, and there were several individual donations that helped boost the account to its present status.
  - Sonya Goodman distributed an updated Internment Inventory to the committee.
  - The Mission Statement for the Woodland Cemetery Stewardship committee was discussed for a final time. The committee voted on the statement and it was unanimously approved. The Mission Statement is as follows:
    - "The Woodland Cemetery Stewardship Committee will consider, recommend, and engage in actions to protect and enhance the integrity, character, and traditions of Woodland Cemetery and its environs."
  - The headstone that was stolen a few months ago is to be replaced by a headstone to be provided by the military. It will arrive in the next few months.
  - The Annual report of the Committee is being produced by Bobby McCormick and Matt Dunbar, and will be available to the committee soon.
4. New Business – none.
5. Meeting Adjourned at 5:30 pm.