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February 16, 2016

My name is Fred Dorsey and I live at 10774 Judy Lane, Columbia, Md.

Being a member of the Cemetery Preservation Advisory Board I have a vested interest in appointees to the Board. CR 21-2016 appointment of Mathew Smithson is to fill a vacancy that requires a representative from the religious community. Mr. Smithson does not meet the requirement and the appointment should not be approved.

## Howard County Cemetery Preservation Advisory Board Roles and Responsibilities

Thank you for your interest in the Cemetery Preservation Advisory Board (CPAB). This role is an appointed position that is chosen by the County Executive. Each Board member should fulfill one of the following qualifications of expertise or representation:

- 5 members shall be residents of Howard County; the remaining can be from other counties
- 1 member shall represent the development / building industry
- 1 member shall represent the religious community
- 1 member shall represent the funeral-cemetery business
- 2 remaining shall have knowledge or training with preservation, genealogy, history, architecture etc who have knowledge and demonstrate and interest in the preservation of burial grounds
- 2 members shall represent the general public

We currently have 6 board members and have fulfilled all required representation. If you have any interest in serving on this board then the following is the time commitment for each year.

- 4-5 Quarterly board meetings a year typically on Tuesday morning for 90 minute meetings. (Attendance of the majority of meetings is required. Meetings have been scheduled 10:00am-11:30am unless a holiday or weather conditions interfere with that schedule.)
- 1-3 Council sessions a year as we update laws and regulations. (Attendance is not required but presence, support and testimony is appreciated.)
- 1-3 Annual events to help with cemetery restoration or education within Howard- site visits, additional meeting/seminars (Attendance is not required as a Board but your presence is welcomed.)
- 2-5 Hours each month reading materials, communicating with the Board and making progress on goals. (Participation is required in order to be an active and effective member.)
- As Boards commitments fair, this is not a taxing commitment. There are no nightly or weekly tasks that will consume your schedule.

An example for the specific representation of the religious community, it would be beneficial but not required if:

- The member was a pastor, priest, rabbi or in an official ordained religious role to a congregation, synagogue or active religious body; a person retired from this role is acceptable.
- The member was familiar with historic cemeteries, for example: if their congregation owned a historic cemetery or a historic cemetery was adjacent to their facility, or the member has a connection or interest to historic burial grounds.
- The member was not over-tasked in other areas of his/her life where they don't have the time or focus to spend on the CPAB.

This Board shall have oversight of:

- The Howard Counties Historic Cemetery Inventory Map which currently has more than 200 sites inventoried.
- The preservation of historic burial grounds through various means of education, projects, and initiatives.
- The creation of laws, regulations and procedures that would be consider by County Council and the County Executive for implementation.
- Ideas and opportunities to share with our citizens for the preservation of historic cemeteries.

For any questions of these roles or this description, please contact Beth Burgess at 410-313-4341 or [bburgess@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:bburgess@howardcountymd.gov) .

If interested, please submit your name and a letter of interest along with your bio/resume to the County Executive's office attn: David Lee at [DKLee@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:DKLee@howardcountymd.gov) or 410-313-3395. Thank you.