

**FAUQUIER COUNTY
ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD**

Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2020

4:00 p.m.

Warren Green Building, 2nd Floor Meeting Room

10 Hotel Street, Warrenton

Attendance:

Jack LaMonica, Vice Chair (Marshall District Representative)

Mary Root, Chair (Citizen-at-Large)

Bryan Jacobs (Lee District Representative)

Kristie Kendall (Cedar Run District Representative)

John Toler (Scott District Representative)

Virginia Gerrish (Center District Representative)

Bob Lee (Planning Commission Representative)

Staff:

Wendy Wheatcraft, Staff

Maureen Williamson, Staff

1. Chair Mary Root called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.
2. The December 4, 2019 meeting minutes were reviewed. Mr. Jacobs made one correction to the minutes stating it was not he who agreed to bring a copy of the Davis-Burroughs-Tackett property deed to the January meeting, but it was Ms. Root who said she would obtain a copy for review at the that meeting. Mr. Jacobs made a motion to approve the minutes with the correction as noted. The motion carried 7 – 0.
3. Ongoing Business
 - Finding Cemetery along Rock Hill Mill Road

Ms. Wheatcraft showed multiple slides to describe the probable location of the “graveyard of blacks” off Rock Hill Mill Road. To orient the ARB, Ms. Wheatcraft first outlined the general area surrounding the cemetery—northwest of The Plains, northeast of Marshall, west of Halfway Road, east of Zula Road, and north of Rock Hill Mill Road. A historic stone house, constructed ca. 1850 and identified as the Samuel Puller House, was noted as an important resource in pinpointing the cemetery’s location, as it appears in the deed language as being on the subject parcel. She pointed out what she believes to be an original property line near the cemetery, as described in the 1860 deed of sale from Scanlon to John and Thomas Crupper. The parcel on which the cemetery was located was “sixty seven and one half acres, more or less.”

A deed for the adjacent parcel to the east, also recorded in 1860, was reviewed next, as it also mentioned the same “graveyard of blacks.” This deed describes a sale from Scanlon to Lawson. Landscape features on the 1937 aerial, like the fence lines, were used to interpret the property boundary language of the 1860 deeds.

Ms. Kendall asked Ms. Wheatcraft if LiDAR technology had been used to attempt to place the cemetery on the current landscape. Ms. Wheatcraft replied that she had not requested it from the GIS Department. Ms. Kendall offered to produce LiDAR images and asked Ms.

Wheatcraft to send a copy of the slides and a GPS coordinate of the probable cemetery location. Ms. Wheatcraft agreed to email both.

Ms. Wheatcraft said that mailing a formal letter of introduction to the property owner might be the next course of action. Mr. Lee suggested sending a notice to the district Supervisor so that he would be made aware of the situation.

Mr. LaMonica requested a copy of Ms. Wheatcraft's PowerPoint slides. Ms. Wheatcraft agreed to email them to Mr. LaMonica.

- Davis-Burroughs-Tackett Cemetery

Ms. Root shared a multiple-slide presentation showing the existing conditions of the Davis-Burroughs-Tackett Cemetery. The slides showed encroachment upon the cemetery by the owner of the surrounding land, which consisted of older farm implements, metal tanks and irrigation piping; some piled against the cemetery fencing. Ms. Root demonstrated its one-acre legal boundary, which extends beyond the fenced cemetery area that measures approximately 60' x 60'. Ms. Root also presented images of a contemporary house, which she believes may also be encroaching upon the one-acre cemetery.

Ms. Root presented property deeds, which specifically mention the one-acre being reserved for a cemetery. The 1917 property survey includes the language "containing 90 acres less one acre reserved for a graveyard." Ms. Root presented the 1930s WPA report for the property in which it was said that graveyard stones were leveled during the Civil War, and soldiers camped at the graveyard. The report presented an account of the horrors the farm underwent during the war. She detailed how family members fled the farm due to Federal occupation.

Ms. Root presented a detailed list of ownership of the parcel starting after the Civil War to current ownership today. She also presented some names of known persons buried within the cemetery.

Ms. Root reported that the current owner, Mrs. Rodriguez, had been approached and seemed pleased that there was interest in the historic cemetery. Ms. Root believes that Mrs. Rodriguez may be agreeable to allowing someone to perform a clean-up of the cemetery, at the very least removing the larger farm implements from the graveyard. Ms. Root said that if Mrs. Rodriguez would agree to the clean-up, Ms. Root and her husband Ray, who are professional surveyors, would survey the property on a pro bono basis in order to be able to stake out the actual perimeter of the cemetery.

Ms. Wheatcraft stated that she will check if a zoning permit had been issued for the modular home that appears to be infringing upon the edge of the cemetery.

Ms. Root is contemplating sharing the information to Supervisor Butler, as the property is in the Lee District.

4. New Business

- Election of 2020 Officers

On motion made by Ms. Root and seconded by Mr. Jacobs, it was moved to approve the election of the following officers for 2020 – Mr. LaMonica, Chair; Ms. Root, Vice-Chair; and Ms. Gerrish, Secretary. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Announcements

On Tuesday, January 14, the Warrenton Antiquarian Society will host a presentation on *The Life and Times of the Soldier Spies at Vint Hill Farms Station during World War II*. The presentation will begin at 2:00 p.m. at the Warrenton Visitor Center located at 33 N. Calhoun Street.

6. The next ARB meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 5, 2020
Mr. Jacobs announced that he will not be in attendance for the February meeting.
7. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:24 p.m.