Present: Lester Seal, Cathy Morrison, Betty McGahey, Albert Davis, Karen Jones

Excused: M. Lee Dearing

Administrative Gerry "Bootie" Comer, Charlotte Shifflett

Devotions:

Charlotte Shifflett led devotions before business was addressed. Her topic was relative to 6 trees recently planted in Elk Run Cemetery, funded by a grant from *"Keep Virginia Beautiful"*. The topic was chosen to point out that trees are alive and the connection to us is spiritual as recorded throughout the Bible.

Cathy read from Jeremiah likening us to a "tree planted by the water. *"For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river; and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit."*

Karen Jones continued devotions by reading from the book of Psalms 1:3 stating that the *"And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."*

Pledge of Allegiance: All in attendance joined in reciting the pledge.

Lester Seal/Chairman called the meeting to order @ 7 pm.

I. Volunteer Interview

Theresa Cumberland attended the meeting to express her reasons for submitting an application to serve on the Cemetery Commission.

She noted her strengths are organizational skills, physical labor, and in addition she considers it a good opportunity to serve the citizens of Elkton.

Cathy Morrison presented a question as to whether Theresa has relatives buried in Elk Run Cemetery.

a. William Shifflett, her grandfather by adoption, rests in Elk Run Cemetery.

Theresa went on to say she grew up in Maryland. When she moved back to Virginia she accepted a position at Elkton Elementary School. In 2005 she advanced to Spotswood High School where she is still employed at the school library.

Cathy Morrison inquired if she would be available to attend scheduled meetings.

a. Theresa explained her job at Spotswood High School would be her number one priority; but she would make an attempt to attend as many meetings as possible.

Lester Seal/Chairperson allowed time for any additional questions and/or concerns by members or Mrs. Cumberland. With no responses forthcoming, Chairperson Seal dismissed Mrs. Cumberland and assured that she would be taken into consideration for the position.

II Minutes from May 5, 2016

Betty McGahey made a motion, seconded by Cathy Morrison to accept the May 5, 2016 minutes as written.

Voice Vote All = yes 6-0

Lester Seal, Cathy Morrison, Betty McGahey, Albert Davis, Karen Jones

Motion Carried

III Discussion

Candidates

Carla Powell submitted her name to fill the vacancy on the Cemetery Commission; however, she is out of town for several days and was unable to attend. A resume is attached to her application and should contain answers to most questions regarding her personal skills and willingness to serve.

- Chuck Morris submitted an application to be a volunteer on the Cemetery Commission but was not present to conduct an interview. Bill Davis felt it was a ridiculous idea for Mr. Morris to go thru another interview when he had already completed the process earlier in the year.
- Chairman Seal would like to see the committee cast it's vote tonight
- Mrs. Jones felt Chuck had an application from the get go and felt no interview was necessary.
- Councilman Comer assured members that no politics were involved when the commission recommended to council to place Mr. Morris in the vacant position. The decision was made due to the fact the application was presented to the secretary after the cut-off date had past.
- Councilman Comer continued by noting if this was a job interview would Mr. Morris have shown up?
- He would like to make a decision based on the facts presented at tonight's meeting.
- Bill Davis commented if the cemetery committee worked like other committees there might be an excuse to blow this thing out of the water. However, he feels it is a blessing that all of our members work together to accomplish goals
- Karen Jones expressed her thoughts by noting if Mr. Morris is interested why is he out tonight?
- Bill Davis reiterated that he has worked at the Elkton United Methodist Church with Chuck for many years and knows for a fact you can count on him!
- Chairman Seal intervened and asked if members were ready to vote tonight?
- Councilman Comer advised the group he has no problem with Mr. Morris. The issue of council not accepting the recommendation for him was due to the late time he submitted the application; while the other candidate had presented his on time. He went on to comment that he knows both Carla Powell and Chuck Morris quite well. Additionally, he feels the procedure is up to the committee.
- Councilman Comer wondered what others had to say regarding the voting. He is ready to make a decision.
- Bill Davis said "Chuck has been interested for a long time. In his defense he has waited for one year."
- Chairman Seal called for votes:

  Carla Powell

  Vote yes 2 votes

  Bootie Comer and Lester Seal

Theresa Cumberland
Vote yes 0 votes

Chuck Morris
Vote yes 4 votes
Betty McGahey, Bill Davis, Karen Jones, Cathy Morrison
Motion Carried

- Chuck Morris has been recommended to Elkton Town Council to serve as a member of the Cemetery Commission. Councilman Comer will take to council on August 15, 2016.
- Karen Jones believes since Chuck is retired from a full time job, he will be another body.
- Cathy Morrison commented Chuck has been waiting a year.

IV New Business

- Linda Eppard, wife of Bobby Eppard deceased, has spoken to Charlotte and Bill Davis regarding the 50 right-of-way that is adjacent to her property.
- She had first informed Charlotte she would like an option to purchase the lot and have it cleaned up. This inquiry was passed to Elkton Town Council by Charlotte. No response received.
- Mrs. Eppard approached Bill Davis and advised him the fence could be taken down and perhaps the town maintenance could clean up the fence row.
- Bill Davis agreed the fence row should be cleaned and place the "*Veterans Dr*" sign up at the entrance. It is mowed to the property line in front and would be nice to clean out the fence row. In addition, the cement steps should be removed.
- Chairman Seal is opposed to selling any property.
- Karen Jones volunteered to talk to Mrs. Eppard relative to her proposal.
- Chairman Seal would like to see the steps removed.
- Councilman Comer will visit the site and decide about the proposed issue before council work session.

V Bathrooms:

A member expressed an interest regarding the progress of construction of a bathroom and a foyer to place cemetery maps, records, etc.

- It was mentioned that Will Smith, a local draftsman/architect may give the town a good rate on design of the structure.
- Cathy Morrison has discussed the possibility of a grant to offset the cost of a building.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting date October 20, 2016 @ 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers located in the Elkton area Community Center located on Blue/Gold Dr.in Elkton, VA .

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Chairperson Secretary