Present: Karen Jones, Lee Dearing, Albert "Bill" Davis, Colleen Grady, Troy Shifflett

Absent: Chuck Morris, Steve America

Administrative: Delores Hammer - Cemetery Director

Guest: Mayor Joshua Gooden, Town Manager Kim Alexander, Teresa Lam, David and Lois Booten

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

Devotions: Chairman Jones asked everyone to bow their heads in a moment of silence

Meeting Minutes
Lee Dearing made a motion to accept the February 21, 2019 minutes as written, seconded by Albert "Bill" Davis

Voice Vote 4-0
Karen Jones, Lee Dearing, Albert "Bill" Davis, Colleen Grady, Troy Shifflett

Motion Carried

I. New Business

Mr. and Mrs. David Booten attended the meeting to bring to the attention of the Commission a complaint she had. Mrs. Booten said that tulips she had planted at her Father's grave had been cut off with a weedeater. Chairperson Jones apologized for the incident. Mrs. Booten said that she felt it was unfair that her tulips were removed and that other people had numerous items displayed throughout the Cemetery. Colleen Grady said that the Commission is currently reviewing the Rules and Regulations of the Cemetery. Colleen Grady said that the Commission is working to enforce the rules and regulations but it was difficult because things have been allowed to go on for such a long period of time. Vice Chairperson Lee Dearing apologized to Mrs. Booten and explained that it was not intentional that the landscapers were simply doing their job. Vice Chair Dearing explained that the Commission is attempting to correct these issues but they have been allowed to continue for so long that people will be upset when the rules start being enforced. Vice Chair Dearing apologized and Mrs. Booten said he did not owe her an apology. Vice Chair Dearing said that if you follow the rules and regulations that live flowers are prohibited. Mrs. Booten asked if everyone was going to be required to remove all the items. Chair Jones said that the Cemetery Commission is working on having all items removed.

Teresa Lam spoke about the proper way to clean markers at the Cemetery. Ms. Lam said that she uses a cleaner that is approved by the National Park Service. Colleen Grady asked what type of cleaner she was using. Ms. Lam said she uses D2 and it the same product that the National Park Service uses. Vice Chair Dearing said that the Commission does not have a problem with cleaning markers but family permission is required. Ms. Lam said she only touches the older Confederate

stones. That she does not clean any other stones. Colleen Grady said she contacted Hartman about a cleaning product for a stone. She said that Hartman did not tell her about D2. Ms. Lam said that D2 is safe for the stones. Ms. Lam said she has photos on Facebook page Friends of Elk Run if members would like to review the photos.

Ms. Lam suggested that the Commission consider the idea of offering history tours around the Cemetery as a fundraiser. She said that she had period appropriate clothing and would be happy to volunteer to provide the tours.

II. Bylaws, Rules and Regulations

Chairman Jones and the Commission reviewed the draft of the revisions to the Bylaws and Rules and Regulations. Several changes were requested. Delores Hammer Cemetery Director will make the revisions and the Commission will review at the June 20, 2019 meeting.

III. Paving of the Cemetery

Chairman Jones said she was approached in the fall and was asked why she agreed to spend between $97,000 and $110,000 to pave the cemetery. Chairman Jones said that the paving of the Cemetery was not discussed or approved by the Cemetery Commission. She said that question is what led to the Commission reviewing the bylaws. It was discovered that the bylaws currently read the Town Manager makes those decisions. At that time Acting Town Manager was Wayne Printz and he made the decision to pave the road without consulting the Cemetery Commission. Colleen Grady said the height of the road is too high and dangerous. She also said that crab grass is growing up through the pavement. Ms. Grady said the paving was an awful decision. Troy Shifflett said nothing kills crab grass that you can only stun it. Colleen Grady said that the asphalt is not as good as it should be. Troy Shifflett said the asphalt is good. Town Manager Kim Alexander said that she would discuss with council the idea of the debt being removed from the Cemetery because they did not request the paving.

IV. Fertilizing and Mowing

Chairman Jones asked for an update on mowing and fertilizing. Delores Hammer Cemetery Director said that the fertilizing had been completed. The mowing was going well. Vice Chairperson Lee Dearing said that the Cemetery looks nice and that in his opinion the mowers are doing a good job. Troy Shifflett said that the mowers were moving too quickly that they were "flying" through the 10 acre field. Troy Shifflett said that the mower is mowing the entire cemetery with a 52" mower and that he is beating the mower to death. Bill Davis said that the grass is getting ahead and it is a lot of brown spots were the grass has blowed over. Delores Hammer said she spoke to the landscaper regarding the grass. Colleen Grady said that when she

The meeting closed without a proper motion to adjourn

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 20, 2019

Chairperson: Karen Jones

Vice Chair: Lee Dearing