

**Historic Evergreen Cemetery  
Executive Planning and Review Team Minutes (DRAFT)**

**September 24, 2019 reporting / August 27, 2019 meeting**

**5:30-7:00 p.m., Seminar Room #1, Claude G. Perkins Living and Learning Center,  
Virginia Union University**

*Team members present:*

Mr. Archer, Ms. Baskerville, Ms. Campbell, Mr. Hopkins, Ms. James, Ms. Lauderdale, Ms. Libron, Mr. Mickens, Mr. Mitchell, Ms. Mitchell, Mr. Ritter, Ms. Rogers, Mr. Shuck, Mr. Smith

*Facilitator present:*

Kelly Pratt, Genifer Ross

*Guests:*

Alvin Jones

*Meeting Agenda:*

**ExPRT Meeting Minutes: August 27, 2019**

- Welcome and Introduction
  - Introductions
  - The sixteenth ExPRT Meeting held August 27, 2019 at Virginia Union University began with approval of the July 23, 2019 meeting minutes introduced by Secretary, Ms. Marilyn Campbell. A motion was made to receive the minutes by Mr. Hopkins and properly seconded by Ms. Viola Baskerville. The motion carried for acceptance.
  - Brief introductions – New staff member Gennifer Ross, Enrichmond Foundation’s Volunteer Coordinator over Historic Evergreen Cemetery shared that she has been on the job for three weeks and has as her goals to keep the volunteers coming in, and make it a pleasant experience as they continue the work. She expressed her gratitude over the past patronage and the work that has been done on the grounds. Her contact information was made available for members to reach her with questions. ExPRT members followed with introductions and their participation as a team member.
- ExPRT member brief updates
  - Viola Baskerville shared that she had the opportunity, two weeks prior, to update the Enrichmond Board of the current status of the progress at Historic Evergreen Cemetery. The Board commented on how very impressed they were by what the ExPRT team has been doing. She answered questions of concern. --Expressed that at a future point, we may want to have as guests, Board members to sit in on the ExPRT team meetings. --Met with member of Board of Directors with Virginia Outdoors in a meeting with executive director for the Virginia Museum of History and Culture to update on Evergreen Cemetery. It was expressed how impressed by what has happened so far, especially regarding the UNESCO designation. --Invited the executive director to tour in October the grounds of Evergreen. Enrichmond Foundation Director, John Sydnor and Ms. Baskerville met with the superintendent of Richmond Public Schools to discuss how to engage the schools. They gave an update on Evergreen Cemetery’s progress. Superintendent Kamaris expressed how he too was impressed by the team’s efforts. One of the academic goals commented by Kamaris, is to sell the quote, “ungarnished history of Richmond.” The superintendent stated that he would engage members of his staff to brainstorm on concepts for the involvement of students in an academic aspect. John Sydnor and she also met with the city of Richmond Mayor Stoney to update on him Evergreen. The mayor was asked to consider putting a

budget for Evergreen in next capital improvement budget. Mr. Sydnor was asked by the mayor to give a list of possible things that could be included in the listing. Future plans are to keep the mayor regularly informed. John Shuck gave update regarding Woodland Cemetery. He shared that the wife of Isaiah (owner) Mrs. Enzminger recently passed away.

- Update on operations, research and training programs
  - Alvin Jones reported that an overall goal should be to have people come out and see something different, something improved and maintained. Alvin spoke of his cemetery work, in need of support components, such as equipment to do the work, and need a resource of workmen to keep Evergreen maintained. The growth is tremendous. Mr. Jones expressed that the first and foremost goal is to clean up Evergreen. Says he has been there for two years daily and it is at a plateau and needs a plan for moving forward.
  - Volunteer Coordinator, Genifer Ross announced that she has developed a three tier plan to utilize volunteers. Work will become optional to work in weekdays as well, as weekends. Some of the work will be directed to review areas previously worked so that the effort will help with Alvin Jones' grounds keeping effort. Corporate brings in 200-300 people at a time and including a schedule of a weekday for an hour of service, will have a tremendous impact.
  - Enrichmond's Family Services Coordinator, Kelly Pratt has worked with the gravesites and found many of the aluminum markers have been destroyed. These are items added to her wish list she is to develop of needs. She stated that she has found that contractors have caused major damage to the markers in some areas.
  
- Master Planning Committee Update
  - Kelly Pratt facilitated the meeting and gave a PowerPoint presentation on the chapters in the masterplan for review by ExPRT team members for the evening. Chapters 6-12 were distributed. The team was divided in three groups to review and discuss the sections of chapters – Chapters 6-12. Discussion was held on team member input.
  - In a 20-30 minute follow discussion effort, team members reported back to the larger group.
  - Topics discussed included signage, maintaining flower growth, historical markers, vehicular signage in locations, directional entry signs. Questions were noted for each chapter for the masterplan committee.
  
- Meeting adjourned 7:50 p.m.
  
- Next meeting dates on Tuesday, from 5:30-7:00 p.m.:
  - September 24, 2019
  - October, 22, 2019
  - December 17, 2019
  - January 14, 2020
  - February 18, 2020
  - March 24, 2020
  - April 21, 2020
  - May 26, 2020