Historic Evergreen Cemetery Executive Planning and Review Team Minutes

November 19, 2019 reporting / October 22, 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. Bell, Ms. Campbell, Ms. Davis, Ms. Fleming, Mr. Hopkins, Ms. Lauderdale, Ms. Libron, Mr. Mickens, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Shuck, Mr. Smith

Facilitators present:

Kelly Pratt, Genifer Ross

Guests:

Ms. Brind'Amour, Mr. Hervey, Mr. Shadoian, Mr. Taylor, Ms. Vauters, Mr. Vauters

Meeting Agenda:

ExPRT Meeting Minutes: October 22, 2019

- Welcome and Introduction
 - o Facilitator Kelly Pratt opened the meeting @ 5:35 p.m.
 - The eighteenth ExPRT Meeting held October 22, 2019 at Virginia Union University began with approval of the September 24, 2019 meeting minutes introduced by Secretary, Ms. Marilyn Campbell. A motion was made to receive the minutes by Ms. Baskerville and properly seconded by Mr. Smith. The motion carried. At the end of the meeting, Ms. Bell noted a problem with the minutes. She stated that it was important to build a cultural bridge from Africa into America and that if we only focus on Africa then story is only half-told. She wanted to include the words "interpretive programming and African and African American Cultural connectivity."
 - o Introductions were given of all present.
- ExPRT member brief updates
 - o Ms. Fleming introduced Ms. Vauters who has been working on an abandoned cemetery in Hampton where she found her ancestors buried.
 - o Ms. Campbell gave an update on the AAGHS conference. About 400 people attended and there were 40 presenters. The conference occurs yearly in October. In April, the Embassy of the Netherlands will host an event at an American cemetery there to honor the veterans buried there and they need people to help research.
 - o Mr. Shuck said that he's gotten the gps locations for all graves from the 1980s onward. He stated that he doesn't currently record unmarked graves.
 - o Ms. Davis gave an update on her documentary. She mentioned people who might play the different roles.
- Update on operations, research and training programs
 - Facilitator Kelly Pratt, Family Services Coordinator with Enrichmond Foundation reported on the progress of her division. The Federal Reserve volunteer team has completed their project. They added a total of 1890 new entries to the database. The overall total of entries in the database is now at 4337 entries.

- o Jim Shadoian, Operations Manager with Enrichmond Foundation, introduced himself and explained his background. He has been opening up several sections at the Evergreen Cemetery and plans on working on East End Cemetery soon. He used to work at a veterans cemetery.
- o Genifer Ross, Volunteer Coordinator with Enrichmond Foundation, reported that she plans to open up volunteer days for mentally disabled people and for those with various religious backgrounds. She noted that the Master Restoration Plan will be released to the general public on MLK day. There will be an event at Evergreen on Nov. 2 hosted by Delegate McQuinn. Genifer also mentioned plans for Serve Day 2020 to involve more religious organizations. Lastly, in an effort to be fiscally responsible, the ExPRT meetings will no longer be catered by the VUU group. Instead, we will have light refreshments.
- Eagle Scout, Colby Taylor, introduced the project he planned to do at East End Cemetery to place flag holders on the veterans graves. He estimates 200 veterans graves at EEC. The holder will be made with rebar and washers. The project will be completed by Memorial Day or Veterans' Day next year. The ExPRT members unanimously voted in favor of this project. Mr. Taylor take care of all the fundraising and volunteer engagement for the day. Additional funds in excess of those needed for the project will go to Enrichmond Foundation.
- Ms. Pratt facilitated the group discussion about a combined name for Historic Evergreen and East End Cemetery, and any other cemeteries that may be acquired in the future.
- o Ms. Ross stated that she's working to allow interns to receive credit for helping with Enrichmond.
- o Ms. Pratt read an email from Ted Ritter. Mr. Ritter resigned from the ExPRT.
- o Ms. Davis noted an issue with having the meetings recorded on media.
- Meeting adjourned 7:10 p.m.
- Next meeting dates on Tuesday, from 5:30-7:00 p.m.:
 - o December 17, 2019
 - o January 28, 2020
 - o February 25, 2020
 - o March 24, 2020
 - o April 28, 2020
 - o May 26, 2020