# Burial Sites Preservation Board Meeting Minutes April 28, 2025

### **OPEN SESSION**

The Burial Sites Preservation Board (BSPB) for Dorchester County convened into Open Session on April 28, 2025 at 4:01 p.m. in Room 110 of the County Office Building, 501 Court Lane, Cambridge, Maryland 21613. A roll call of the board members was conducted. Present in Room 110 were: Dorothy Bradford Samonisky; Frederick "Eric" Windsor; Joe Era; and Karen Tolley; Also present in the room was Kellie Lauzon, Administrative Support; Mike Henry and David Beverly, II were absent.

APPROVAL OF BURIAL SITES PRESERVATION BOARD OPEN SESSION MINUTES

Upon motion by D. Samonisky, seconded by E. Windsor, the BSPB approved the Open Session minutes of March 31, 2025, by a 4 to 0 vote.

INTRODUCTION OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

D. Samonisky introduced Kellie Lauzon, Executive Assistant, County Council Office, as the Administrative Support for the Board.

## NEW BOARD APPOINTMENT

Karen Tolley was appointed by the County Council on April 17, 2025. Ms. Tolley attended the meeting as a new board member.

### DISCUSSION

D. Samonisky led the discussion about potential board appointees that have expressed interest. E. Windsor said he is also working to locate other interested individuals.

D. Samonisky provided an update from the Coalition to Protect MD Burial Sites confirming they will have a copy of their guidelines at the upcoming May 3<sup>rd</sup> conference for J. Era to bring to the next meeting. D. Samonisky said some members of the Coalition are interested in attending a future meeting.

E. Windsor said the Facebook page previously created for the Board was never launched and/or live. K. Lauzon said she will provide an update to the Board regarding the use of the County Facebook page and/or any other social media platforms at the next meeting.

E. Windsor said he's been monitoring the Dorchester County website BSPB page and it looks great.

The meeting schedule for the remainder of 2025 was established as the following:

May 19	Open Session	4:00 p.m.
June 23	Open Session	4:00 p.m.
August 25	Open Session	4:00 p.m.
September 29	Open Session	4:00 p.m.

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**Open Session** 

4:00 p.m.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

D. Samonisky said she would like each board member to review Chapter 63 of the County Code and make a list of recommendations to update the Chapter.

D. Samonisky directed K. Lauzon to research the process of updating a Chapter in the Dorchester County Code.

K. Tolley and D. Samonisky discussed an intake form for families to report burial sites, and/or, a form to make a report of destruction to a burial site.

D. Samonisky shared ideas such as developing business cards for the Board, and presenting to various business types, including Real Estate Brokers, Survey Companies, and, Engineering Companies; E. Windsor mentioned Volunteer Fire Companies in addition to the list of businesses, to raise awareness of burial sites within the County.

K. Tolley also recommended the Board plan a community outreach event to raise awareness of the Board, potentially recruiting more members of the public interested in serving on the Board, to take place in the fall season of 2025.

D. Samonisky mentioned the Trader Foundation for Maryland Burial Sites, a non-profit organization that offers grants for the purpose of protection, conservation, and restoration of a burial site within the State of Maryland.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by D. Samonisky, seconded by J Era, the BSPB adjourned the meeting at 5:03 p.m., by a 4 to 0 vote.

ATTEST:

Kellie Lauzon Executive Assistant

BURIAL SITES PRESERVATION BOARD Bradford Samonisky, Chair Frederick Windsor, Vice Chair David Beverly, II

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N foe Era

Mike Henry 611 Karen Tolley

Approved the 19 day of May, 2025.