

GLEN ARBOR TOWNSHIP
CEMETERY ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes of April 5, 2022, Meeting at Township Meeting Room

Meeting called to order at 1 p.m.

Present: Diane Calsbeek Terri Myers, Amy Peterson, Linda Dewey, Chairperson, and John Pepler, Liaison

Members of Public Present: Vicki & Lloyd Vanderkwaak

Pledge of Allegiance to Flag

Agenda: The agenda was accepted as proposed.

Public Comment: None

Board of Trustees' Update: Thanks to Deering for their work on the cemetery grounds. JP said that, from his experience, Deerings gave us a really good price. Deering Tree Service owner, Josh Deering, presented a low bid to remove tree debris at the Glen Arbor Cemetery as a thank you to the Glen Arbor Township residents for their business and support over the years. Pam is convinced that as things start to grow, the cemetery will look nice and natural.

The open seat on the CAB has been advertised. So far, no one has applied. We should ask Pam to repost the position. Each committee member was encouraged to think of people we would like to have on the board.

Committee Reports:

History/Research: Diane reported that most of her time the last two months has been spent transcribing old newspaper articles, birth certificates, death certificates, obits, censuses, and marriage information concerning the information we have about people known to be buried there. Andy White and Barb Siepker are forwarding to us any research information they find regarding known persons buried in the cemetery. Just two weeks ago, Andy found information about another baby buried there.

In the process, a good archive of historical materials has been built around many of the decedents and their families that could be made publicly available. Maintaining a record of who is buried at the cemetery is part of the township obligation. Attached is a list of what we have so far: 50 known and 10 probables.

We also have noticed several loose ends to follow up and investigate.

Restoration: GPR: Before we can get GPR work done, the brush and branches need to be cleared from the area. It is recommended the process be performed prior to any grading of the acreage.

Restoration continued:

Cemetery Access: The current access has been somewhat graded, but it is not fully accessible and may require compaction of the dirt as well as surface cover.

A worker bee was scheduled for April 23 at 10 a.m. to pick up branches and smooth out the walking areas around the current headstones.

The poor physical condition of headstones is now more apparent, following the tree and brush clearing. Terri will contact Ron Kelderhouse and Ryan Robinson regarding future stone cleaning and repair. The Glen Burgess grave is a priority.

Terri expressed some concern about what will happen if GPR finds bodies outside the cemetery boundaries. CAB will deal with that if it happens.

Linda asked Terri to find out what was budgeted for fixing stones and report at the May meeting. CAB will suggest RFP for gravestone repair work goes out in May.

Maintenance:

Amy reported that Kerry Kelly and Friends of Sleeping Bear volunteers performed a needed stick removal and grading of the access from Forest Haven Road to the cemetery property. They will also weed whack the easement on either side in June and September if requested. The Board asked that she request that now for June.

Memorial Day weekend ceremony cleanup scheduled for Saturday, May 21 at 9 a.m.

Amy said John knows where brush can be disposed of. Pam L. said they may be able to be left in the woods behind the township hall. Kerry Kelly said brush could be tossed over the fence into National Park property; except large ones should be carried out. CAB does not advise we do that.

Amy will check to see if we can use motorized vehicles in the cemetery.

Kim Mann told Amy that if the National Park receives complaints about wheelchair access to cemetery, the path would need to be hardened somehow. Amy presented three options. Amy moved that we go with Option 1, which would be that FOSB be asked to remove any remaining stumps or roots out of the 4-6-foot wide path and that they trim back briars one foot on either side in June and September. Motion was seconded and passed.

Education:

Linda reported that the bulk of her committee's work in February and March were spent preparing historical files for the upcoming Glen Lake 8th Grade project. In April, under American history teacher Mellissa Okerlund, 8th Grade students at Glen Lake Middle School embark on their research/writing project on the lives of those buried at the Glen Arbor Cemetery. Linda gave a summary of what the young people will do, including research on a person buried in the cemetery, trips to the Leelanau and Empire historical museums, and the Glen Lake Community

Library, then write a biography or article about their person. This collection of articles will be available to the public.

Students will participate in the planned Memorial Day ceremony.

This project fulfills the CAB goal of promoting citizen awareness as outlined in the proposed CAB five-year plan. While the township is not bound to educate the area about its

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properties, John stated this will be a great opportunity for educating folks young and old about the heritage of the Township.

Old Business:

Excel Charts to Word: Diane reported that on her old computer, the best she could do was get our Excel chart converted to Word in a very small format, too tiny to work with. Linda commented that we have gotten along pretty well without the chart lately.

Request for GPR proposals: Diane moved that someone from CAB meet with Pam Laureto. to outline a strategy to go ahead with an RFP for GPR. Motion was seconded and passed.

The Memorial Day Service is planned for May 27. There will be a Trak chair available for people in wheelchairs. Linda will be in charge of the ceremony but will be delegating most everything. John Sawyer of the Sons of Union Veterans will dedicate the grave of Civil War veteran Daniel Parker.

Public Comment:

The Vanderkwaaks thanks the Board for their hard work. They like very much the holistic process of including the school.

Adjournment: There being no more business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: 1:30 p.m., May 10, 2022, GA Township Meeting Room

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Calsbeek, Secretary

(See attachment)

Glen Arbor Township Cemetery

Documented graves
as of March 29, 2022

1. Baker, Ida
2. Baker, Infant
3. Bunn, Infant
4. Burgess, Glenn
5. Crise, Louisa Roosa
6. Daly, James
7. Daniels, Eliza (Mrs. Samuel)
8. Dowey, Robert
9. Ehle, Helen
10. Fisher, Fred (uncle, son of Charles)
11. Fisher, Fred (9 yr old nephew, son of Edwin)
12. Fisher, Juna
13. Fowler, William
14. Giles, John
15. Golden, Frank (1879, **cook on the W.B. Phelps that sank at Glen Arbor**)
16. Green, James Lawrence (Civil War veteran)
17. Hansen, Marie
18. Hillman, John
19. Jensen, Kate Trumbull
20. Knickerbocker, William (Murdered by husband of lover; husband was exonerated)
21. LaVance, Arthur (infant)
22. LaVance, Alice (infant)
23. Lee, Margretta
24. Lind, Charles
25. Linsday, Orange

26. Linsday, Jane Davis
27. Lungren, Nellie
28. Millington, Francis
29. Moore, Elmer
30. Oleson, Nels
31. Olsen, Olaf Peter (infant, and probably his parents)
32. Olsen, Ingerbart – child of Carl – death cert
33. Olson, Infant
34. Olson, John Henry
35. Parker, additional son of Daniel
36. Parker, Burr
37. Parker, Daniel
38. Persig, Agnes
39. Ploughman (Plowman), Infant
40. Roosa, Charles
41. Smith, Fannie L.
42. St. Peter, Mary
43. Taylor, Loretta
44. Todd, Joseph Franklin
45. Trumbull, Edmund
46. Trumbull, Harriett Holloway
47. Trumbull, John
48. Tuttle, Francis
49. Welch, Ruell Russell
50. Weldander, Charlotte (Mrs. John)

Probable

1. Baker, Infant News article says they lost three children while they were living there. We have found records for two so far.
2. Daniels, Rebecca Cox Mother of Eliza Daniels, died March 17, 1885

3. Olsen, Jenny Mother of Olaf Olsen (not to be confused with Jenny Oleson, wife of Nels Oleson)
4. Olsen, Carl Father of Olaf Olsen (not to be confused with Carl Oleson, son of Nels Oleson)
5. Grandmother of Burr Parker
6. Grandfather of Burr Parker
7. Parker Sibling of Burr Parker
8. Ray, Caroline
9. Ray, George
10. St. Peter, Joseph