

DELAWARE TRUST BOARD LAND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

and

Sub-Committee on Cemeteries

Meeting: Thursday, July 18, 2012, 4:00 P. M.

Delaware Community Center Building

Meeting was called to order by DeAnn Ketchum, Chairman, at 4:15 p.m. Those present were Chet Brooks, Titus Frenchman, Jo Griffith, Annette Ketchum, Dee Ketchum, John Sumpter and Curtis Zunigha. Dr. Greg Brown was on conference call. Steve Falleaf and Wayne Stull were absent. Minutes of the last meeting (June 4) were reviewed and approved with corrections to spelling.

Greg reported that State of Oklahoma does not have equipment to do Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR), but Brice is still checking around to find someone who can do it. Brice Obermeyer is in contact with the Kaw Nation who last did GPR for the Tribe and they are looking for that report now. Titus said Cherokee Nation has the equipment and he will follow-up on CNO availability.

Greg also reported Brice has talked to Park Services about its grant for placing cemeteries on the national register. Filing is due March 2013 and the maximum grant is \$40,000. Discussion followed. The committee consensus is that we need to file for the grant from Park Services next year and include four or five cemeteries. Greg and Brice will carry on with collecting information as to the most likely cemeteries, like Jackson-Fall-Leaf, Lenno, and others that are in need of restoration. John pointed out that Jackson-Fall-Leaf is county-owned and Lenno is on private property. However, Curtis said the owners of that land were co-operative.

DeAnn asked for review of the revised cemetery guidelines that resulted from Dee and Chet attending the Elders Meeting July 2. The Elders had no input and were in agreement with Dee's presentation. Discussion followed. Suggested additions and changes were made for further review at the next meeting. When completed the funeral homes will be provided a copy and it will be on Website. It was established that Leslie Fall-Leaf will report to the cemetery committee after verifying tribal membership of a deceased, receiving paperwork, etc. whenever a member seeks burial in tribal grounds. John Sumpter will be the contact person to show family of deceased the cemetery lots.

John suggested that in the future more spaces will be needed at the Delaware Cemetery (West of Highway 75 on Two Mile Road because only 20-25 remain. Motion made by Jo that Curtis, Dee and John will pursue establishing owner of adjacent land, make contact, etc. Discussion followed. Chet seconded motion, passed.

Curtis said Russ Mathis will bale the grass on North 40 for free and take the bales. Discussion followed. Motion made by Dee to allow Russ to mow and bale on North 40 acres, but to cut the stems at least four inches high so new growth would return (due to drought conditions) and only on a one-time basis. Chet seconded, passed. Curtis also reported he has summer help doing the cemetery mowing and it is debited to Land Management budget. Meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Submitted by

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Annette Ketchum, Secretary

DELAWARE TRIBE OF INDIANS TRUST BOARD  
LAND MANAGEMENT CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Guidelines for Burial at Delaware Cemeteries

**Williams or Delaware and Busby Cemeteries are owned by the Tribe. Silverlake and Jackson-Fall-Leaf are owned by Washington County. Other Delaware cemeteries are on private land.**

1. The Delaware-owned cemeteries are for burial of Delaware tribal members only, with the exception of a legally married spouse who may be buried in the cemetery. The same pertains to cremations.
2. The family must contact Leslie Fall-Leaf, enrollment co-ordinator, at the tribal office when a death of a member occurs if the family wants to bury the deceased or cremated remains in a Delaware cemetery. John Sumpter is the Cemetery Committee contact person - 918-532-4938. He will show the lots in the cemeteries to the family of deceased Delaware.
3. Cremated remains of Delaware members will not be allowed in a full plot, but will be placed in a designated area.
4. The family will be responsible to coordinate with the funeral home for the grave to be opened and closed and for any other services which the funeral home provides and all is at the family's expense.
5. The funeral stipend provided by the tribe will not be paid to a family, but will only be paid by invoice from the funeral home or other entity providing the service.
6. If a Delaware tribal member is buried in a non-Delaware cemetery, the family may still make application for the funeral stipend.
7. The family will be responsible to provide a grave marker and it must be flush with the ground. No foot markers are allowed. Traditional markers are optional.
8. Decorations left at the grave at the time of burial or on Memorial Day or Annistice Day may be left for a week; however after that time, the Delaware Tribe does not take responsibility for such decorations, live or imitation.
9. The Delaware cemeteries remain unlocked at this time for members wishing to visit the grounds.