

**Burial Sites Preservation Board
Open Session Minutes
March 31, 2025**

OPEN SESSION

The Burial Sites Preservation Board for Dorchester County convened into Open Session on March 31, 2025 at 4:00 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 Windsor; Joe Era; and David Beverly, II. Also in attendance was Mayor Karen Tolley, Church Creek. Mike Henry was absent.

DISCUSSION

The board met to discuss goals and plans of the board, as well as the proposed schedule of the board meetings.

Ms. Samonisky provided an overview on the Burial Sites Preservation Board (BSPB) solvency status that was determined during the January 21, 2025 County Council Meeting; the County Council agreed to provide the BSPB a one-year trial period beginning January 21, 2025 to demonstrate the board's effectiveness, with the provision that the board will be disbanded if board members fail to maintain professional conduct.

Future board appointments were discussed to fill all vacancies and increase public interest in this board.

Insight and guidance from The Coalition to Protect MD Burial Sites committee can be requested.

Revisions to Chapter 63 of the County Code need to be addressed at a future meeting, and will be brought to the Council for further consideration.

Administration concerns were addressed (email and social media monitoring) to be discussed at a future meeting.

The next meeting dates were set for April 28, 2025 at 4:00 p.m., and May 19, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.

NEW BOARD APPOINTMENT

Joe Era was appointed by the County Council at its March 4, 2025 meeting, attending as a board member.

ANNUAL BOARD APPOINTMENTS – CHAIR & VICE CHAIR

Upon motion by Ms. Samonisky to nominate herself as Chair of the BSPB, seconded by Mr. Beverly, the board unanimously voted to elect Ms. Samonisky as the board's Chair.

Upon motion by Ms. Samonisky to nominate Mr. Windsor as Vice Chair, seconded by Mr. Era, the board unanimously voted to elect Mr. Windsor as the board's Vice Chair.


PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Karen Tolley, Church Creek, has expressed her interest to serve on the board; Ms. Tolley has submitted a "letter of intent" to the County Council requesting consideration for an appointment to the BSPB.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by D. Samonisky, seconded by J. Era, the BSPB unanimously adjourned the meeting at 4:55pm.

ATTEST:



Kellie Lauzon
Executive Assistant

BURIAL SITES PRESERVATION BOARD



Dorothy Bradford Samonisky, Chair



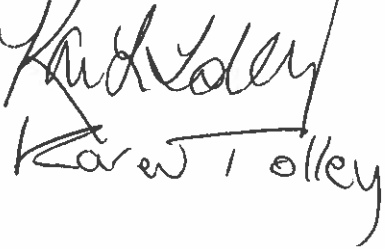
Frederick Windsor, Vice Chair

David Beverly, II



Joe Era

Mike Henry



Karen Tolley

Approved the 28 day of April, 2025.