

MICHIGAN LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS MEMORIAL MONUMENT FUND COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes of January 4, 2024

Meeting No. 145

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Larry Garner at 1:11 p.m.

Members Present: In person- Larry Garner, Lydia (Amaya) Bernard, Katy Sherwood,
(Absent- Pastor Ron Griffin, Gentry Shelby, Deodge Hill)

Commission Staff: Niki Tefft, Jerry Keeder (Virtual- Dane Hengesbach)

Guests: Debbie Swofford, Brian Rendon

1. Review of Minutes 10/5/23:
Tentatively approved.

2. Financial Statement:

Dane sent the financial statement electronically prior to the meeting. Includes DTMB maintenance, engraving, ceremony fees. Are there any projected expenses for 2024 that should be included? Engraving fees should decline from years past. Engraving corrections projected at \$40,000. Jerry is working on new quotes for tree replacement. TruGreen is on contract with DTMB for fungicide treatments

Ceremony Recap:

Ceremony was held at the end of October and lightly attended however everything went smoothly.

Maintenance Costs:

- Fungicide for Dogwoods- 3 treatments of \$700 each for total of \$2,100
- Tree removal/replacement – Jerry is getting additional quotes
- Name corrections –
 - Jerry recommends an updated quote with submission of new names to be added in 2024

Name Nominations to be added in 2024:

Approved Names (National)-

- Special Policeman Augustus Henry Emery, Jr.
- Lt. Frederick Charles Bowens Jr.
- Police Officer John Burdette

Need more investigation-

- Sergeant Paul M. Durham: Michigan Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division, EOW 2/11/72, Cause of Death- cardiac arrest
- Police Officer Benjamin C. Montie: Ecorse Police Department, EOW 3/31/24, Cause of Death- gunfire
- Police Officer John Otto Hessler: Ecorse Police Department, EOW 8/12/43, Cause of Death- gunfire

Planning to move forward with 7 new names along with corrections for quote. Will approve in February meeting with a May deadline. Jerry will request the engraving quote to break down cost of new names and corrections so that commission can vote accordingly.

How do we list "Special Policeman" (SPPO)? Middle initial rather than middle name will be used. Titles and nicknames are not listed on panels.

Cadence of Meetings:

- Monthly – January through June is important leading up to ceremony
- Bi-monthly
 - Suggested quarterly as this is the cadence for MiCOPS

Open Discussion:

- Lydia Amaya is now Lydia Bernard
- MiCOPS wants to hold off moving memorial to the wall until confirmation of Capital Commission project is determined but does wish to collaborate with MLEOM in the future. MLEOM plans to hold a separate ceremony on May 6, 2024 at 5:00pm on same day as MSP and MiCOPS to begin alignment of future ceremony collaboration.
- Commission terms up this year
 - Lydia
 - Larry
 - Ron
 - Katy? (plans to stay on)
- Commission member commitments and new assignments

**MICHIGAN LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
MEMORIAL MONUMENT FUND COMMISSION**

Meeting Minutes of February 1, 2024

Meeting No. 146

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Larry Garner at 1:14 p.m.

Members Present: In person- Larry Garner, Lydia Bernard, Katy Sherwood, Gentry Shelby (Absent- Pastor Ron Griffin, Deodge Hill)

Commission Staff: Niki Tefft, Virtual- Dane Hengesbach

Guests: Virtual- Debbie Swofford

Review of Meeting Minutes: October 5, 2023 & January 4, 2024

Motion by Katy to approve. Motion seconded by Lydia. Motion passes unanimously.

Review of Financial Statement:

Dane sent financial statement electronically prior to the meeting

Finalize funding for addition of names to panels – Debbie provided a list of names to consider prior to the meeting. Discussion to hold on Durham, add Trp. Popp and 4 additional names approved by NLEOM:

George A Brown, Lansing PD, EOW 5/6/1901

Martin Draft, River Rouge PD, EOW 5/19/1919

Herman Wilkewitz, River Rouge PD, EOW 4/48/1931

Isam M Qasen, Detroit Police Department, EOW 9/28/2020

Name Nominations to Review:

- Sergeant Paul M. Durham: Michigan Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division, EOW 2/11/72, Cause of Death- cardiac arrest – not approved at NLEOM
- Police Officer Benjamin C. Montie: Ecorse Police Department, EOW 3/31/24, Cause of Death- gunfire and Police Officer John Otto Hessler: Ecorse Police Department, EOW 8/12/43, Cause of Death- gunfire – not submitted by the police department, Commission

Motion by Katy to approve the six above mentioned names, remove Durham and proceed with the name corrections. Motion seconded by Gentry. Motion passes unanimously.

Maintenance Costs:

- Fungicide for Dogwoods (PureGreen)- 3 treatments of \$700 each for total of \$2,100. Motion by Gentry to approve. Motion seconded by Katy. Motion passes unanimously.
- Tree removal/replacement – still waiting for additional quotes.

Cadence of Meetings:

- MLEOM will meet the first Thursday of January, June, and December. Additional meetings will be added as needed. Motion by Lydia. Gentry seconded motion. Motion passes unanimously.

Open Discussion:

Lydia brought MLEOM contents in her possession to meeting to transfer to Katy for storage. Katy will begin managing the MLEOM Facebook page and Lydia Bernard will be removed.

Discussion that it is not necessary for MLEOM to have a ceremony yearly. Suggested to include a passage in MiCOPS program regarding names on the MLEOM wall.

Debbie has a chaplain who is willing to serve the Commission. Larry will proceed with the appointment nomination.

Lydia will be resigning her position in June 2024. Commission will need to find a replacement.

Katy motion to adjourn meeting. Motion seconded by Gentry. Meeting adjourned at 1:59pm.

**MICHIGAN LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
MEMORIAL MONUMENT FUND COMMISSION**

Meeting Minutes of June 6, 2024

Meeting No. 147

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Larry Garner at 1:12 p.m.

Members Present: In person- Larry Garner, Lydia Bernard, Katy Sherwood, Gentry Shelby (Absent- Pastor Ron Griffin, Deodge Hill)

Commission Staff: Niki Tefft, Jerry Keeder, Bill Harris, Virtual- Dane Hengesbach

Guests: Virtual- Debbie Swofford

Review of Meeting Minutes: February 1, 2024

Motion by Katy to approve. Motion seconded by Shelby. Motion passes unanimously.

Review of Financial Statement:

Dane sent financial statement electronically prior to the meeting

Anonymous \$2.00 cash donation from Traverse City

Annual \$100 "admin" fee from Treasury

DTMB Staff Change:

Jerry Keeder has a new position and is no longer associated with MLEOM. Bill Harris has taken Jerry's position and will be new MLEOM facility contact. Introductions were made.

Update of new names being added: Jerry

Proof has been approved by commission via email. Waiting for the artisan to provide update and ETA. Confirmation of name corrections

Tree maintenance:

New quote for removal/replacement & tree trimming

Pure Green provided a quote for Fall Trimming of \$2700 and Fall Planting (stump removal, relocation) \$2300 Motion by Gentry to proceed with both Fall Trimming and Planting for a total cost of \$5000. Motion seconded by Katy. Motion passes unanimously. Work will occur in fall 2024.

Lydia:

Read formal letter of resignation as of June 30th. Will submit to Governor's Office, MSPTA and DTMB. Niki will forward to the MLEOM Commission.

Open Discussion:

Niki has a set of flags- Katy will take them with her along with license plate covers Lydia brought in.

Gates not open May 6th, panels not lit 9:06pm – Jerry/Bill will investigate
Discussed potential new appointments to replace Paston Ron and Lydia Bernard.
Gentry may have contacts for a Chaplain. Larry will reach out.

Improving communication with Commission members, eliminating delays. December meeting cutoff for name submissions with approval at January meeting. Artisan is confident that if final names are provided by January meeting, work should be able to be completed by May ceremony.

Debbie provided a name to be considered for next year - Court Officer Robert J. Silver St. Clair County 72nd District Court, Michigan. End of Watch Thursday, December 28, 2023. Commission will discuss at December meeting.

Lydia motioned to adjourn meeting. Motion seconded by Katy. Meeting adjourned at 1:57pm.