

The beginnings of the Delaware Cemetery Association in Dingmans Ferry, Pa

At a meeting called at the home of Philip Fulmer, March 6, 1880, for the purpose of appointing a committee of five persons to receive and collect the money subscribed for the purpose of purchasing additional grounds, repairing the fence and otherwise improving the graveyard at Dingmans Ferry, Pa., as to their judgment may seem to the best interest of the greater number of subscribers. The following resolutions were passed and adopted:

Resolved:

That the said committee, after repairing fence, purchasing ground, shall make or cause to be made, a map of said grounds to divide them up into small lots, as according to their judgment may seem best:-Said lots to be named and numbered as far as practicable.

Resolved:

That every sexton or grave digger shall be under the immediate control of said committee, and shall obtain a permit from at least one of the committee for every grave dug, in order that there shall be no needless waste of ground.

Resolved:

That said committee be elected on the first Monday of every ensuing March, said committee giving due notice by advertising and calling a meeting of the subscribers.

Resolved:

That this committee be instructed to purchase a book to enter this and all subsequent proceedings; also in which to enter the names and amounts paid by each subscriber.

Resolved:

That the treasurer pay no money unless on or by an order from the president, attested by the secretary.

The above resolutions were adopted March 6th, 1880.

The following committee was appointed by the subscribers:

James H. Emery, Chairman

John G. Hood, Secretary

Evert Hornbeck, Treasurer

John B. Van Auken

Benjamin Whitesell

At a meeting called April 10th, 1880. Committee present in full. The following resolution was considered and adopted:
Resolved:

To purchase the ground lying between the old grave yard and the Academy lot, extending from the public road to the woods. Commencing at southeast corner of old graveyard, running south three hundred and forty five feet and three inches, thence west to woods, four hundred and thirty two feet, thence north to northwest corner of old graveyard, five hundred and three feet, thence back, south two hundred seventy one feet, to southwest corner of old graveyard, thence east one hundred and sixty feet to corner where the same to be chartered and laid out in lots to be sold for burial purposes.

At a meeting called May 1st, 1880. Committee present in full.

To accept the previously described ground joining the old cemetery, with an addition of 18 feet on the west side and 18 feet on the north side of the old cemetery expressly for a wagon road.

Resolved:

To circulate a subscription to procure purchases for lots in the new cemetery.

At a meeting called June 12, 1880. Committee present in full. The following resolutions were considered and adopted:

Resolved:

That the "one dollar subscription" for building a fence around the old grave yard must be collected immediately.

That a committee be appointed to see F.C. Dingman concerning the surveying of the land, and securing a deed for the same. James H. Emery and Benjamin Whitesell being appointed as said committee, made the following report:

That the land for the Delaware Cemetery be surveyed on June 16th, and that a deed be obtained on the 17th of June on payment of one hundred dollars, and the committee in full becoming responsible for the balance of payment on January 1st, 1881.

At a meeting called on June 21st, 1880. Committee present in full.

Resolved:

That the subscriptions on the new cemetery be closed until the charter is granted.

Resolved:

That the new cemetery be called and known as "The Delaware Cemetery Association."

Resolved:

That the old and new cemetery be fenced together with barbed wire fencing and chestnut posts.

Resolved:

That the building of the fence be hired by the day at one dollar per day.

At a meeting called November 30th, 1880. Not all of the committee were present. This day commenced the laying out in lots the new cemetery or Delaware Cemetery.

This ends the early history of the starting of the Delaware Cemetery as taken from the original books of the association.

Notes from the Chairpersons of this listing

The deed for the property was recorded September 2, 1880 before John C. Westbrook, Recorder of the County of Pike, state of Pennsylvania.

Fifty - one citizens and residents of Pike County subscribed to the association with moneys to be applied in payment upon lots or plots in the cemetery. In 1932 an additional nine acres were acquired.

The Cemetery Association obtained an official charter on March 28, 1963.

The Delaware Cemetery Association wishes to thank Mim Carpenter and Brenda Snyder for use of this history of the Delaware Cemetery as printed in their book, **Delaware Cemetery Burials** (copyright 2002). For further information about this book, you are referred to the Dingmans Ferry - Delaware Township Historical Society, 116 Wilson Hill Rd., Dingmans Ferry, PA. 18328 (email DFHS@ptd.net).