**Monument Committee**

**Minutes**

**6:30 pm, Thursday, January 21, 2021**

Meeting Room AB Berryville / Clarke County Government Center

101 Chalmers Court, 2nd Floor, Berryville, Virginia

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|  | Call to Order-The meeting was called to order by Chairman Staelin. In attendance were committee members John Staelin, Gwen Malone, Bob Stieg, Will Nelson, Daniel Nelson, and John Burns. Meg Roque and Lee McGuigan were not in attendance. A number of citizens and the press were in attendance.  |  |
|  | Introductions-Committee members each introduced themselves and shared their personal backgrounds. |  |
|  | Brief Overview of Various Administrative Matters-Chris Boies- The Committee was informed of basic Freedom of Information Act regulations including that all meetings of the committee (with a meeting being more than two members together discussing the business of the Committee) require public notice before the meeting is held, correspondence such as email between Committee members must be turned over to the public if requested, and Committee members should be careful of using “reply all” on emails because of the possibility that it could appear the Committee was taking action or making decisions without the public present.  |  |
|  | Monument History-Maral Kalbian-Ms. Kalbian provided a detailed presentation on the history of the monument (see attached). Several Committee members asked follow-up questions concerning the information she presented.  |  |
|  | Committee Work Plan-Next Steps-Chairman Staelin handed out a list of questions he had compiled from individual conversations with each Committee member (see attached list). Committee members discussed the list and asked for specific information including the written copy of the speeches given the day the monument was unveiled, the names listed on the monument, reference materials used in Ms. Kalbian’s research, and records related to the County’s maintenance of the statue. Committee members noted that the legal status of the monument should be discussed before getting too far into the discussion. At the next meeting the Committee will hear an update from County Attorney Bob Mitchell. A Committee member also expressed his desire that the Committee eventually get participants from both sides of this issue in the same room to discuss and understand each group’s point of view.  |  |
|  | Next Meeting: TBD-Committee members will be sent a couple possible meeting dates and the public will be notified as soon as a date is determined. The next meeting will be held at 6:30. |  |
|  | Adjournment |  |
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