

COMMITTEE ON CEMETARY PROJECT
Thursday, September 6, 1951

special

A/meeting of the Committee on the Cemetary Project was held on Thursday aft. September 6, 1951 in the Federation office with the following persons present:

Messrs: Jos. W. Braiger, Louis Platensky, Adolph Silver, Samuel Keil, Morris Peck, Nathan P. Michlin, J. A. Chester, Philip Cohen, I. B. Finkelstein and Ben V. Codor.

It was reported that following the last meeting of the committee, two men (Samuel Keil, Jos. W. Braiger) were appointed to meet with Mr. Emmonds regarding the possibility of agreeing on some type of deal that might be arranged.

Mr. Keil reported that no progress was made at this meeting with Mr. Emmonds.

Mr. Codor reported that since that interview, Mr. Chester received a letter from Mr. Emmonds and was contacted by him personally at which time Mr. Emmonds stated that he would like to make some kind of deal with the Cemetary Committee. He said he had had a change of heart. Mr. Chester asked him to put his ideas in writing. (See attached.) After the receipt of this letter, Messrs. Keil and Chester saw Mr. Emmonds again.

Mr. Keil reported on this inter/view. Mr. Emmonds says he has 16 acres plus, and another piece of land attached to the Workmen's Circle and Moses Montefiore plots which he wants to include in the deal. His price is \$35,000 for which he claims he can give a free title and any assistance requested.

Mr. Cohen questioned whether all 16 acres are usable.

Mr. Braiger reported that a lot of the ground can be drained and much of it is high and above average land. There is anywhere from 400' to 600' frontage.

Mr. Codor reported that the C_hesed Shel Emeth representatives could not attend but they had given him the authority to speak for them. They instructed him to inform the committee that they are willing to participate in a community-wide project and they have a minimum of \$9,000 towards the purchase.

Mr. Codor questioned whether the price asked by Mr. Emmonds is a fair one/

Mr. Keil recommended that the matter be turned over to a committee of two to purchase the land at the best possible price.

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Mr. Codor questioned whether the ~~am~~ matter should be taken back to the organizations to get their approval in writing that they will enter into an agreement to make the purchase from Mr. Edmonds. After they agree, the representatives will have to figure out the division of the land.

Mr. Chester felt that the important thing at the present time is to make the purchase and later work out the divisions and other decisions that will come up.

Mr. Codor recommended that a committee of from 3 to 5 persons to negotiate the purchase and draw up plans and blueprints.

Mr. Cohen recommended that the Committee get a 90 day option at a stipulated price from Mr. Edmonds.

Mr. Peck's motion was seconded and approved that a committee of five be appointed including Philip Cohen, to seek an option from Mr. Edmonds and get surveys of the land.

Mr. Codor felt the committee should notify each organization of the possibility of purchasing the land for \$35,000 and get their approval in writing.

Mr. Keil questioned whether the committee appointed to discuss the problem with Mr. Edmonds should be authorized to give up to \$500 for a retainer should it be necessary.

Mr. Chester recommended that each organization send in \$100 to the Federation to be used for the option.

Mr. Finkelstein felt that a smaller committee should investigate the details; i.e., division of land and money.

Mr. Codor pointed out that as soon as the committee finishes their work, another meeting will be called. The following are to serve on the committee to negotiate the purchase: Adolph Silver, Morris Peck, Philip Cohen, Louis Budin, J. A. Chester. It was also suggested that Mr. Samuel Keil work with the committee in view of the work he has done on this project.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.