

████ Kendall Avenue/Madison, WI 53705 ***** January 30th, 2018

FROM: Frank Clover



TO: Madison Landmarks Commission

Madison Mayor's Office

United Daughters of the Confederacy

Nearly two centuries ago, 1861-1865, the American People fought a great war, suffering huge losses. One of the two combatting groups prevailed militarily, and thus set in motion a flawed resumption of the "United States". For the military victors the conflict was a Civil War, and the aftermath was the Reconstruction. The defeated combatants saw otherwise. The conflict was the War of Northern Aggression, and the postlude was the Federal Occupation. The differences which sparked the great struggle live on today. The US is now badly divided, scarcely a unity; and thus we might separate again. If there is a second separation, we can turn to the original division for guidance as to how we might cope while we are again apart. Remembrances of the original conflict would be very helpful.

There are two such remembrances in Madison: [1] a statue in the Capitol Square, marking the passing of one of Wisconsin's finest soldiers, at the Battle of Chickamauga; and [2] the Camp Randall-Forest Hills Cemetery complex. Recently the Madison Mayor's Office has proposed a revision of the second recollection. The rationale of the Mayor's Office is, I believe, politically correct and historically inaccurate. There was no victory in 1865. The American People suffered a great loss -- that is all. Both of Madison's recollections should, I believe, remain intact.

My differences with the Mayor's Office stem from my background. I grew up in a southern Arizona mining town. Many of the miners there came from southern states. In addition, the vicissitudes of Arizona during the great war -- Arizona was then part of the New Mexico Territory -- were unique. For a short time, the Confederate flag flew over Tucson, and then ceased to do so when a pro-Union force from California came on the scene. A full-scale battle fought at Picacho Peak, near Tucson, decided the matter. The so-called Battle of Picacho Pass was surely the westernmost engagement of the great conflict.

From: julie mills [mailto:██████████@sbcglobal.net]

Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2018 8:04 AM

To: Scanlon, Amy <AScanlon@cityofmadison.com>

Subject: Confederate memorials

Hi,

Family issues meant I could not attend the public hearing.

Having this monument to hate is insulting to citizens of color, everyone who has family buried in Forest hills, and all those Wisconsin citizens black and white who worked to end slavery.

The fact that it is so close to union soldiers graves who fought in a just cause is an added insult. Can you imagine a swastika next to an American WWII cemetery in France? This is the same thing.

Please remove the monuments and send them anywhere. If you need ideas

"Lake Michigan is a perfectly wonderful place to put a rock"

Kind regards
Julie mills

From: Grrrr [mailto:████████@shopstop.net]
Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2018 11:11 AM
To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Confederate Rest

I would like to ask that you leave the monument to the men who fought for what they believed in that time, they were not traitors they were doing what their state asked, which at that time was more important than the federal government. You cannot blame men who did as their POLITICIANS asked, if that were the case, well things would be pretty bad right now (ask the native Americans they were almost wiped out) . The marker was put up over 100 years ago, two local union generals and multiple others of political voice were involved, with no hatred or animosity towards them. For over 80 years no one cared until some one with political aspirations got involved. If you wish to put another MARKER to say what the war was about do so, but do it in proper context of the time, as much of our history has some horrible things done, it's the past. These veterans from then moved on and made peace with each other , maybe you should learn to do the same.

George Rice

Prairie du Sac Sons of Confederate Veterans member

From: Matt Evans [mailto:████████@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, March 12, 2018 11:27 PM
To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Confederate Memorial

To the City of Madison
To the Landmarks, Park, and Equal Opportunities Commission
To Mayor Paul Soglin

In the recent year, I have repeatedly tried to contact the mayor's office regarding the monument at Forest Hill cemetery. All emails and phone calls went unanswered or returned. In light of that, I have attached this email to not, only the mayor's office and the above mentioned, but also to local newspaper and media outlets, in hopes of having a discussion and possible solution without the mayor desecrating the brave confederate soldiers' graves.

Let me start by introducing myself. My name is Matthew Evans. I am a small business owner, a father, a husband and a Camp Commander of The Sons Of Confederate Veterans, (SCV), Camp #516. I am also a civil war buff, living historian, reenactor and school program teacher of the civil war with the highlight being on the confederate soldier. I began my interest in the civil war at a very young age, thanks in large part to my mother and father. It has grown into something that has almost consumed my life.

Last year, the Mayor of Madison decided he wanted to jump on the bandwagon of anti-confederate. Where he started his campaign in that, is less than desirable, a cemetery on the bodies of brave men who left their homes to fight for several reasons, not just the reason the mayor likes to highlight so much when he talks in front of the media. I am almost certain that the mayor, let alone the commission has done any real research on the men buried in that cemetery. To the mayor and others, they are just a political stepping stone. A cemetery is something that is supposed to be left alone. A place where there is peace, a place of rest. The mayor sees fit, or at least is attempting to, disrupt that peace. He has also gone great lengths to spread lies and misinformation about the United Daughters Of The Confederacy. His source of his information tells me enough that he does not know what or who the UDC is. His comments were unfounded, rude and highly uneducated. I feel the only civil war book that the mayor has ever picked up was the history book he was given in high school. The people involved in this decision are obviously very ignorant to the civil war or its causes. In hindsight, I can understand that because people today are afraid of what they do not understand and do not want to search for the answers. Instead our society relies on google or the laughable Southern Law Poverty Center for information on the Confederacy.

With that being said, let me introduce my solution for not only the Mayor, but also the City of Madison. I don't believe adding a new sign or removing a name is going to fix anything. All it does is disrupt this ground these men are buried in. So, what is my solution? Well, it is obvious that the City of Madison and the Mayor no longer want these men in Madison. So I will offer the mayor, the city and whoever else is involved in this a solution. The City should not only to return my SCV camp, Camp Douglas Memorial #516, the plaque that was already taken down, but the monument. I will though up to anty. My camp, along with other camps in the area of Illinois and Wisconsin, will personally and FREE of charge to the city, remove the bodies of the 140 confederate soldiers buried there and move them to a more suitable location. A location where they are not only wanted but also a location where they will be honored properly, without a mayor using them as a political stepping stone. Again, this will cost the city of Madison and her tax payers not a single cent. It is a shame that anyone has to even discuss something like this but I feel that the mayor and several others have made it clear that these men are no longer welcomed, regardless of whether they are breathing or not. This is the solution I bring to the table for the City of Madison and her mayor.

Myself, along with my SCV brothers, will figure out all expenses and go through the proper arrangements of moving bodies via Wisconsin law. Everything will be done by the book and the procedure will be done in a text book manner. Again, costing the City of Madison and her tax payers nothing.

I would love the opportunity to come speak with the mayor regarding this matter, though previous contact was never returned. I do hope the mayor is happy about the lies he has spread not only about a organization, the UDC but of dead men. I hope to have a conversation soon and come up with some sort of solution that will make both parties happy. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Matthew Evans
Camp Commander
Sons Of Confederate Veterans
Camp Douglas Memorial #516

From: Nelson Vaughn [mailto:██████████@co.washington.mn.us]
Sent: Wednesday, March 14, 2018 2:27 PM
To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Confederate Rest @ Forest Hills

Honorable Commissioners –

In April of 1862 the citizens of Madison, no matter their personal opinions of the conflict at hand, showed compassion for the arriving Confederate prisoners by providing food, clothing, blankets and supplies where those same items were lacking at Camp Randall. Their humanity allowed them to see fellow Americans in need rather than an enemy.

I hope in 2018 the present day citizens of Madison can offer those same men the dignity of their service with honor in their final resting place along with a small portion of the grace their fore bearers demonstrated.

Respectfully,

Nelson P. Vaughn

From: Carl Landsness [mailto:██████████@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 14, 2018 12:58 PM
To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>
Cc: Wallner, David <annedave@chorus.net>; Rutledge, Kay <KRutledge@cityofmadison.com>; Mayor <Mayor@cityofmadison.com>; Knepp, Eric <EKnepp@cityofmadison.com>; Rummel, Marsha <district6@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Re Agenda #21 (Confederate Monuments) on tonight's Parks Commission agenda

Dear Parks Commissioners,

As you consider a plan for this emotionally sensitive (and physically challenging) issue... I encourage you ask deeper questions about what this really represents... and reach to higher perspectives, purpose and power to resolve in life-serving and **soul**-serving ways.

Some such ways were discussed in [Sunday's feature article about my unorthodox work in city politics](#).

Others were in [my last letter to the editor](#).

Still others I'll speak to tonight (as long as I can do so before my 7:30 [Ecstatic Dance](#) (a key catalyst for such higher ways).

Carl Landsness
The guy with giraffe ears (and Friends of Starkweather Co-chair)