

Somers Cemetery Committee Minutes from 11.14.18 regular meeting

- 1 Call to order 6:03 PM
- 2 Committee members present: David Morgan, Casey Biega, Tim Keeney (welcome), Pat Loftus, Bonnie Kumiega
- 3 New Chair: Mike Marinaccio formally announced the need for a new chair person. Tim Keeney nominated Pat Loftus. Nomination accepted. Second: Casey Biega. Vote: Accept / 4/0 (Pat did not vote.)
- 8 (Change of order) Approval of minutes from the July meeting. Motion to accept / Casey. Vote to accept 4/0 (Pat did not vote.)
- 4 Added agenda items: Guest Bob Socha asked to speak to the committee. He requested that if flags are removed from grave sites he hope that they would be respectfully handled. He was assured that any American flag removed by the American Legion was properly disposed of. If the landscaper moves items in order to mow or trim the landscaper is responsible for putting items back in the proper spot. A short discussion on the rules & regulations commenced with new packets provided. As an aside and to clarify any misconceptions: Per our written Rules & Regulations any item(s) left at a cemetery are beyond our ability to protect, or replace. Any items that do not fall within the approved rules & regulations may be removed by a committee member or landscaper at any time without notice. No special vote or permission through the committee is needed. Twice yearly major clean ups, spring & fall, are with notice on the town web site, local print media & standing signs at the cemetery. New signs at Center Cemetery reinforce the rules and identify a place of temporary disposal.

A solar powered “critter cam” is a possibility in order to keep an eye on the property during evenings & overnight. The committee will continue discussion of this at a future meeting.

The dates for the 2019 meeting schedule were motioned (Casey), voted on (unanimous) and approved. The committee will continue to meet the second Wednesday of the odd numbered months at 6 PM in the lower level conference room.

- 5 A. Finance: See report from Brian Wissinger in the Business Office.

B. Investments: See report from Thomas Forma & Kevin Nichols (Morgan – Stanley) as filed in the business office. A motion to continue with the strategy of investing in high quality funds on the conservative end of the spectrum was made by Tim Keeney and seconded by David Morgan. A vote of 5/0 to approve was recorded.

C. American Legion – No representative attended.

D. Sexton – No representative attended.

6. Rules & Regulations: A sample was shown of a defaced sign from Center Cemetery. A sub-committee made up of David Morgan & Casey Biega will look over the rules & regulations to see how they might be rewritten to be more direct and concise. A thank you email was sent to Todd Rolland at DPW thanking them for the new signs at Center Cemetery. Brian Wissinger was also emailed a thank you for his part.

7. Columbarium Decision: Both David Morgan & Casey Biega will provide to the business office the specifics of the RFP to be plugged into proper paper work for the bid process. Casey stated that presently the industry shows that cremations are not going to cemeteries. Instead they are going home or being scattered elsewhere. If we have a columbarium it will be a source of focus for the community and a reminder of an additional choice.

8. (Completed as above.)

9. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Loftus
Recording secretary

Minutes are not final until reviewed and approval voted on at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Video of this meeting can be found at

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCitLJypaGg5rGsVVbsUYK8A>