

Somers Cemetery Committee Meeting
Wednesday, January 29, 2020
6:30 P.M. Town Hall Lower Meeting Room

1. Call to order 6:32 P.M.

2. Members present: Chair Patricia Loftus, Casey Biega, Timothy Keeney, and David Morgan.

3. Prior meeting minutes reviewed. Correction was made to David's last name. Tim Keeney made the motion that we accept the minutes with the correction. David Morgan 2nd. Motion approved.

4. Reports

A. Finance: Financial Statements reviewed. We are moving in the right direction. We did have some large maintenance bills with the necessary trimming of trees and the repair of the wall failure lining Old West.

B. Investments. Funds are doing well with continued growth. Mike Marinaccio stated he will be withdrawing the funds from the growth for the Columbarium Purchase.

C. American Legion-Not present

D. Sexton-Jay D'Aleo was present and he said he had no major problems to discuss. He spoke in reference to a family selling off graves from a family plot individually. There are concerns that the cemetery will not have proper documentation. Sale of graves must be registered with the Town Clerks office and documentation for proper transfer of ownership must be done by those involved in the transaction with an Attorney. Jay also notified the committee that the foundation for the Columbarium had not been poured yet.

E. Landscaper-John Guzie stated that there were quite a few Christmas decorations still up from the holiday which needed to be addressed. John also stated due to the fact we have had warm temperatures, heavy rains and little frost, tire ruts from heavy equipment will have to be addressed as well as settling of graves which Jay D'Aleo said his staff would be addressing soon.

F. DPW- Not needed

5. Old Business

A. Dates were discussed for the 2020 calendar year meeting schedule. Dates selected were Jan. 29th (replacement for Jan 8th, March 11, May 13, July 8th, Sept. 22nd (due to conflict) and Nov. 18th (Wed Nov. 11th is Veterans Day). Tim Keeney made a motion that we accept the dates with the substitutions for Jan., Sep. and Nov. conflicts. Dave Morgan 2nd and motion was approved.

C. Sub-committee report tabled. Columbarium rules will need to be addressed under new business.

6. New Business

A. Columbarium

1. Rules for plates, fonts and what is allowed for printed script were discussed.

Decision was made that all niche fronts should be uniform whether one or two inscriptions per niche plate. Font is to be uniform and only font approved by committee may be used for lettering. Religious icons will be allowed from a selection and placement agreed of icons was decided and no terms of endearment allowed. Motion was made by Casey Biega that decisions for the above be accepted and implemented as regulation. David Morgan 2nd. Motion was approved.

2. Design for End panels: Jay D'Aleo stated that if the committee wanted engraved side panels it should be added at time of construction in the factory. Discussion of side panels led to the decision that no engraving would be done and the sides should remain clean. David Morgan made a motion that no engraving on side panels would be done. Casey Biega 2nd the motion and motion was approved.

3. Pricing-(Columbarium Niche Sales). A three tier pricing structure was discussed, starting at the top and moving to the bottom. The top niches would be at a premium, 2nd and 3rd rows priced slightly lower than the premium and the 4th and 5th rows would be priced even lower than the 2nd and 3rd rows to allow for pricing options for all families. David Morgan made a motion to select the pricing structured agreed on and Tim Keeney 2nd the motion. Motion was approved.

Pricing-(Inscriptions)-A bundle was discussed for a discounted rate for the 1st 10 characters inscribed on the Niche Plates and per character dollar amount was settled on for each additional character added. David Morgan made a motion that we accept the inscription fees as discussed. Tim Keeney 2nd and motion was approved.

Pricing- (Opening/Closing of the Niche) Discussion ensued concerning setting fees for the opening of the niches to receive cremains. To make fees uniform, it was agreed that the current fees for interring cremated remains for earth burial would be the same pricing structure for columbarium inurnment. David Morgan made a motion that we set the fees at the same current opening closing fees for cremated remains. Tim Keeney 2nd and motion was approved.

4. Date on which sales may be initiated. Casey Biega discussed the need to have a new rules and regulations guideline composed strictly for the Columbarium and that they needed to be available to buyers before sales can initiate. Casey also said that there was a need to create a Certificate to be issued with the purchase. Casey and David on advisement of the committee have agreed to write the rules, create a certificate and get them to the committee. David Morgan made a motion that rules and regulations and a Certificate needed to be created before sales commenced. Tim Keeney 2nd and motion was approved.

5. Date of presentation to the public. After above in #4 are completed.

8. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Meeting minutes are not considered approved until voted upon the next regularly scheduled meeting in March 2020.

Respectfully Submitted

Casey Biega, Secretary