

Somers Cemetery Committee

Wednesday, September 9, 2020

6:30 P.M. Town Hall Lower Meeting Room

1. Call to order 6:30 P.M.

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

3. Prior meeting minutes reviewed. Correction needed to be made to notes of the special meeting on July 29, 2020. Under 6A there is to be clarification to the notarized statement for the Wood family for Obelisk installation in North Cemetery. The statement reflected that the cemetery would not be held liable for the loss of one of the grave spaces for the installation of the foundation for the Obelisk. Patricia Loftus made a motion to accept the correction to the meeting notes. Tim Keeney 2nd the motion. Motion was approved.

4. Reports

A. Finance: Financial Statements were reviewed with Brian Wissinger and the committee. Brian stated that we are operating and have ended on a profit after expenses for the fiscal year and have cash balance in the Operating Account. He stated that on August 31, 2020 we sold the first niche in the Columbarium and that there was also the sale of a family estate lot and a double grave purchase in the last few months which helped with the excess cash flow. Therefore, endowment funds are up \$58,000 since July. David Morgan spoke of having 10% of every lot and columbarium sale go to back into the trust starting in this new fiscal year and annually. The decision was made to review this in November's meeting.

B. Investments. Kevin Nichols was present from Morgan Stanley. Kevin stated that we are rebounding nicely and are moving in a positive direction despite the fluctuations in the market due to the current health crisis. He stated that with the changes to the markets he suggested that we move \$45,000.00 or 5% from the US LARGE CAP; London Company to Emerging Markets where a larger recovery growth is anticipated. After discussion Tim Keeney asked if we could split the percentages in half and pull the funds out of bonds and the London Company instead. There were two motions made: 1st Motion by Tim Keeney was to move \$45,000 out of the US Large Cap London Company to the Emerging Markets. Casey Biega 2nd the motion. Vote was 2-3 and motion did not pass. Tim Keeney then made a motion to remove \$45,000 as a 50/50 draw of the monies from Bonds and The London Company and put those funds into the Emerging Markets. Ann Levesque 2nd the motion. Vote was 3-2 and motion passed.

C. American Legion-David McCaffrey was not present.

D. Sexton-Jay D'Aleo was present. Jay spoke of a quick claim deed on grave space from the Fuller Family to the McCaffrey Family in New West Cemetery. He wanted to make sure that Ann Logan

was aware of the transaction and that it are recorded properly and that the maps are changed in the Town Hall.

E. Landscaper- John Guzie was not present. It was noted that the bee problem in Center Cemetery has been resolved.

F. DPW-Not needed for this meeting.

Old Business

A. Columbarium:

1. Columbarium has arrived and is installed in Center Cemetery.
2. Jay D'Aleo said the installation went well with no issues and we are ready to sell.
3. Wilkensen/Wood Obelisk Approval. The notarized statement, the drawing and payment has been received by Jay D'Aleo and the foundation and install is the next step.
4. Carol Peters request concerning her family plot in Center Cemetery, Section 1, # 807. The request was concerning shrubbery that needs replacement. Jay said Todd Rolland from Public Works reviewed the request and stated that it was not the right time to replace the shrubbery due to ground water levels and drought. It would be detrimental to the survival of the new install. We were advised to wait to spring and review the options for replacement at that time. We will have to table the request until spring.

6. New Business

A. Fall Clean Up Dates. Dates agreed on for all clean up are October 25 – November 11,2020 so the cemetery will be in good condition for Veterans Day and Thanksgiving. Brian Wissinger will take care of putting notification in the paper.

B. Discussion on Card Rack Advertisement concerning the Columbarium. Pat Loftus went to DG Graphics and worked with Sean to design and create a rack card for sales of the Columbarium to be distributed. Pat discussed the pricing as \$300 or less for 1,000 cards plus a per hour set up fee. The committee liked the product. Pat made a motion that we proceed with the purchase of the rack card produced by DG Graphics . Ann Levesque 2nd the motion, the motion passed.

C. Calendar dates for 2021. It was decided that meeting dates for the 2021 would be as follows: January 13, March 10, May 12, July 14, September 8, and November 10. Pat Loftus made a motion that we accept these dates for next year. David Morgan 2nd the motion and the motion passed.

D. Columbarium "Plaza" discussion- ideas were floated about the possibilities for a patio or walkway around the Columbarium. Casey Biega is going to get photographs of Columbarium patio and walkways from other cemeteries so the committee can get a better idea of what can be designed. This discussion is tabled until the November meeting.

8. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Meeting minutes are not considered approved until voted upon the next regularly scheduled meeting on September 9, 2020.

Respectfully Submitted

Casey Biega, Secretary