

Somers Cemetery Minutes
January 12, 2022 meeting

1. Call to order: 6:30
2. Members Present: Ann Levesque, David McCaffrey (new member, welcome), Patricia Loftus (chair) Not present: David Morgan, Casey Biega (having submitted her resignation)
3. Review of November minutes. Vote to approve: passes 3/0
4. Committee Reports:
 - a. Finance: Brian Wissinger (not present) Copies of financial reports including a year-end report through Morgan – Stanley sent to Mike Marinaccio available in the business office. Note from chair: One major expense was the grinding down and re-paving of the entire driveway and road leading into Center Cemetery. Investment growth made this possible. The roadway was the original from the opening of the cemetery more than 25 years ago. This new surface should last many years with better drainage and no cracks allowing water penetration.
 - b. Sexton: Jay D'Aleo: not present
 - c. Landscaping: John Guzie: not present
 - d. American Legion Post 101: Noted that shipment of ground level flag holders has been delayed. Not an issue as the ground is frozen.
 - e. Veteran's Office: 12/18/21 Wreaths Across America was a success
 - f. DPW / Tree Warden: Report from Ann Levesque that there is a tree on the west side of New West that is leaning and needs attention. Report to be sent to Todd Rolland.
5. Old Business:
 - a. Removal of trees / shrubs from Old West (Champion / Howard plot). No report.
 - b. Continuation of conversation on dog issues (running loose, leaving messes). Potential of a dog park is outside of our scope of responsibility. Citizens must be the ones to request a solution.
 - c. Preliminary discussion of plans for the open space at Center Cemetery. Options for spaces for upright only, flat stone only, family plots, and military section discussed.
6. New Business:
 - a. Request from Tim Keeney (representing members of his family) to have dead shrubs removed from near the Keeney vault and replaced with plantings that will create a privacy screen. Mr. Keeney and Tree Warden Todd Rolland have had a discussion on removal of old and replacement choices. Committee approved the process and parties will report choices at the March or May meeting.
 - b. New West Cemetery question from Ann Levesque centered around dead and invasive items (crab grass?) along a driveway. Area may need to be stripped or sprayed and reseeded. Discussion to continue with the Landscaper at the March meeting. Cost estimate to be requested. Requesting that any product used be discussed with the committee. (Considering organic, safe, etc.)
Considerations for March meeting: 1. Electrical outlet for sound system near flag pole in Center Cemetery. 2. Continuation of discussion on expansion / design plans for Center. 3. Columbarium "plaza" update.
Request for more rack cards (125-150) for Columbarium sales. Vote to approve 3/0.
Chair notes that a new photo should be taken after installation of the "plaza".

Adjournment: 7:32 PM

*Respectfully Submitted,
P. Loftus*