

Village of Skaneateles
Cemetery Board of Lakeview Cemetery
Regular Meeting – January 20, 2015

Present: Robert Gray, President
Patricia Blackler, Commissioner
Gary Trenti, Commissioner
Jorge Batlle, Cemetery Administrator
Sue Jones, Village Trustee
Susan Murphy, Prospective Board Member
Mary Marshall, Prospective Board Member
Rob Gray, Prospective Board Member
Curt Coville, Prospective Board Member

President Gray called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. He noted the presence of the prospective members and gave them some background on how the Board functions. He then announced that he is considering stepping down from the Board and acting in an advisory role.

Upkeep – Having resolved the issue regarding damage to two Pitman gravestones in Section 5, Lot 90 as a Village responsibility, Comm. Blackler spoke with Marcia Carr who was ‘delighted.’ Pres. Gray mentioned that the Rauscher stone needs to be reset also.

Sheperd Issue – Norman Sheperd and his wife desire to be buried after cremation in the northern-most plot of lot 308 in Section 10. Official records showed that Mr. Sheperd’s mother is already buried there; Mr. Sheperd has photographs suggesting that burial was made in another adjacent grave. The Sheperd lots are near Burrows Chapel. Afterward there will be two open graves left. Comm. Blackler has talked with Mr. Sheperd who is forwarding the photographs to the Village for further study. Mr. Batlle believes that with the existing stones and the one Mr. Sheperd plans to erect, that it may be a little tight. Trustee Jones wants to ensure that it will look good. Mr. Sheperd has requested a letter from Pres. Gray stating that the lots will never be sold.

Additional Board Members – Trustee Jones reported that four individuals (Curt Coville, Sue Murphy, Mary Marshall and Rob Gray) had submitted an expression of interest in joining the Board. Pres. Gray explained the makeup of the current Board and that candidates must be village residents having an interest in cemetery affairs. Trustee Jones suggested that after the naming of the newly constituted Board in April, that it would be useful for all to have a tour of the cemetery for familiarization.

Cemetery Administrator – Mr. Batlle reported that the Book of Interments has been rebound. Other cemetery books may need similar repair in the future. A record of all graves has been delivered to Sallie Holbein at the Creamery. Ms. Roben Shappell asked who would be doing the

recording of 2014 burials and lots sold in the various cemetery books. Mr. Batlle agreed to make these updates.

Other Business – Pres. Gray received Mayor Hubbard’s ok on opening of Section 11B for grave sales. He suggested that it commence in July 2015, and be announced in May. He suggests that the Board impose a price increase at the same time.

Pres. Gray reported that other cemeteries require an urn vault for cremation burials. He suggests a price of \$125 retail and \$80 wholesale. It provides protection for the remains and feedback if the grave is probed. On motion of Comm. Blackler, seconded by Comm. Trenti, the Board unanimously approved requiring the use of such vaults, effective immediately. A stock will be maintained at the cemetery.

Pres. Gray noted that the Vault right behind the Chapel needs repairs for non-working lights and excessive moisture. It should be sealed as was previously recommended. Trustee Jones will meet Mr. Batlle on site to inspect, and will talk with the Mayor to establish a budget.

Transactions – None to record

At this point in the meeting, the guests departed. After some additional discussion, it was the sense of the Board to recommend to the Board of Trustees that all 4 interested people should be selected for service on the Board.

Next Meeting – The Board confirmed that the next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on February 17, 2015 at 9:00 am.

This meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 9:47 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Dundon
Clerk to the Boards