

REGULAR MEETING, CEMETERY BOARD
THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2009
9:00 A.M.

PRESENT: President Gray, Commissioners Blackler and *Wellman

OTHERS: DMO Lotkowitz and DPW Foreman Perkins

MINUTES: The minutes of the meeting of January 15, 2009 were unanimously approved as presented. The Board noted that they did not meet in February and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Couch was on vacation in March.

WILLIAMS INQUIRY: The Board reviewed Nancy Williams' (11 Heritage Woods) letter of March 31, 2009 asking if the Board has ever considered improving the path that leads to the cemetery from Heritage Woods Road. She included two photographs of the area stating that the condition of the "back door walking entrance" can be seen in the pictures. DPW Foreman Perkins explained to the Board that the area is not an official walking path but rather a drainage path that was installed years ago when the drain line was extended. The limestone was purposely put there for drainage and to deter four-wheelers from cutting through the cemetery. DPW Foreman Perkins stated that the DPW can do some brush clean-up but, in his opinion, the stones should remain to accomplish the original objectives. The Board unanimously concluded that this is not an official walking path and ought not to be made into one. DPW Foreman Perkins noted that there are a couple of paths to the cemetery through brush from the backyards of houses closer to Kane Ave. and some clean-up can be done in those areas as well. President Gray directed Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Couch to formally respond to Mrs. Williams.

SEASONAL LABORERS: The Board expressed concern about the Village Board's decision not to hire Seasonal Laborers this year because of fiscal year ending 2010 budget constraints. DMO Lotkowitz said we needed to cut a lot from the DPW budget and did so rather than having to lay off a full-time employee. DPW Foreman Perkins assured the Board that there will be two DPW Laborers in the cemetery daily during the work week as it takes at least two to do the mowing and maintenance. Similar to when Seasonal Laborers McManus and Delaney worked in the cemetery, the DPW Laborers will also be available to talk to visitors, answer their questions, and direct them to various cemetery locations.

CHAPEL: Commissioner Blackler said she stopped by the chapel and noted that it has all been scraped and looks good. DPW Foreman Perkins said there is a bit of mold on the north wall but not the effervescence like before. He and Commissioner Blackler concurred that it is okay to paint; Commissioner Blackler cautioned that the same color should be used. She also noted that the chapel door is in need of painting. President Gray commented that at least we are on the right track in solving the moisture problems experienced in the past. He suggested that when the weather is warmer, the doors and windows be opened to allow for air flow.

Commissioner Blackler advised that Dave Blackwell is going to phone William Harper, who did work on the west wall, asking him to return to do the sealing and to then invoice the Village for the work. Mr. Harper previously indicated that he'd perform the work at a cost not to exceed \$2,000.00 but has not yet submitted any bill. Commissioner Blackler said there is money in the FYE '09 budget for this work, as well as for the street signs that she will be ordering prior to June 1, 2009.

DMO Lotkowitz said he "toured" the cemetery yesterday in preparation for today's meeting and noticed a couple of limestone steps needing repair. In response to his questioning the dirt pile, DPW Foreman Perkins advised that we use the dirt in the cemetery, but acknowledged that perhaps the pile is larger than necessary. President Gray asked that the

DPW check to make sure there isn't brush covering any graves in Quaker Cemetery the next time they mow there. DPW Foreman Perkins advised that was completed just the other day.

*Commissioner Wellman left the meeting.

FEES: President Gray said it has been two years since we adjusted cemetery fees and suggested we consider raising prices. He said our fees are lower than the City of Syracuse cemetery and on par with surrounding cemeteries (i.e. Marcellus, Jordan, etc.), although some are a bit less. St. Mary's, here in Skaneateles, charges \$600 to dig a grave compared to our \$500 and the lot cost at St. Mary's is about the same. Commissioner Blackler agreed with President Gray's proposal to increase the cost per grave by \$25, as well as the foundations, and add \$50 for grave openings. Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Couch will revise the Lakeview Cemetery Fee Schedule for the Board to review at their May 21st meeting. If approved, the fee schedule will be effective July 1, 2009.

BLACKLER: President Gray stated that he is very appreciative of all Commissioner Blackler's efforts on behalf of the Board and towards the appearance and maintenance of Lakeview Cemetery, as well as her involvement with record keeping and accessibility. In response to Commissioner Blackler asking how records can be accessed with the Laser Fiche program, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Couch said she is more than welcome to stop by the Village Office anytime for a demonstration.

DEEDS & DEEDS OF TRUST: On the motion of Commissioner Blackler, seconded by President Gray, it was resolved and unanimously carried (2-0 in favor) that the following Deeds and Deeds of Trust be signed, sealed, and delivered by President Gray.

Section 11A, Lot 284 Deed 200, Book 8 Trust Deed 3212	(2 west graves, monumented)	Mary Bradly 3412 East Lake Road Skaneateles, NY 13152
Section 11A, Lot 175 Deed 201, Book 8 Trust Deed 3213	(2 east graves, non-monumented)	Vicki Condie 28 Maple Street, #204 Marcellus, NY 13108
Section 11A, Lot 188 Deed 202, Book 8 Trust Deed 3214	2 east graves, monumented)	Ernest Hares 4048 Mill Road Skaneateles, NY 13152

ADJOURN: The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Patty Couch
Patty Couch
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer