

Village of Skaneateles
Cemetery Board of Lakeview Cemetery
Regular Meeting – April 18, 2013

Present: Robert Gray, President
Patricia Blackler, Commissioner
Mary Sennett, Village Trustee
Stephen Delaney, Seasonal Worker
Burt Jordan, Seasonal Worker
Dennis Dundon, Clerk to the Boards

Absent: Gary Trenti, Commissioner

President Gray called the meeting to order at 9:00. He was pleased to hold the meeting at the Cemetery garage so that all could meet Mr. Delaney and Mr. Jordan, as well as to welcome Mr. Jordan to his new position. President Gray indicated that he expected that Mr. Jordan would be handling the recording of interments in the on-site notebook, and may be involved in the process of selling graves. He expects that DMO Lotkowitz will be explaining more about these expectations to Mr. Jordan in the near future.

In a general discussion of Cemetery matters, Mr. Delaney acknowledged that he is expecting to procure a new mower under this FY budget. So far the crew has been doing maintenance chores; raking and fixing graves by tamping them down and seeding. President Gray stated that he has received several veterans markers over the course of the winter, and was informed that there are four foundations remaining. After some discussion of the current year and next year's budgets, President Gray said that replacement plantings will likely run about \$1,500.

1. **Investments** – President Gray reported that while interest income being generated on these funds is not very good there are no investment alternatives that are apparently acceptable. Consequently, this is a situation that the cemetery must live with.

2. **Change in Allocation of Purchase Fees** – Pres. Gray said that the revised allocation formula agreed to at last month's meeting has been implemented and appears to be working.

3. **Upkeep** – The Commissioners provided some guidance regarding various maintenance issues. Artificial flowers should be removed and kept in or near the garage for people to pick up. All confirmed that only one pot per grave was acceptable. It is OK to leave wind chimes and shepherd hooks, so long as they do not impede mowing. Mr. Delaney reported that winter wreaths are typically removed in April. President Gray complimented all involved on the fine job done in preparation for the funeral service of former Sexton Ron Clarry. Water was turned on and the chapel cleaned, making a comfortable venue for the ceremony.

President Gray suggested that once per week it would be a good idea to open both the chapel and the vault for airing out. Mr. Delaney reported that the vault is built right into the hillside and dates back to 1802. The first burial was a member of the Briggs family.

Trustee Sennett noted that in addition to Mr. Jordan's maintenance of the on-site records, that Ms. Barbara Spain is researching cemetery records and recording the data into a computerized record. That will eventually be housed on the Village web site and in time should be linked to computerized maps, so that location information is readily accessible. President Gray continued, explaining that burial permits are obtained from the Village Office. Government markers, if displayed, require a foundation that the Village makes a charge for.

5. For-Sale Signs – Pres. Gray discussed that he has removed a for-sale sign and discussed other signs or inappropriate displays. The staff will be aware of these and the need to remove them in the future. Permissible displays are covered in the Rules & Regulations that are explained with each sale. The suggestion was made that perhaps those rules could be framed and mounted on the garage building in addition to the free-standing signs located throughout the cemetery.

6. Other Business -- Mr. Delaney said that while small items are procured through Home Depot, that the Village has had success dealing with Main & Pinckney for mower purchases and repairs.

Comm. Blackler will arrange for an updated price list, with current rules & regulations, to be delivered to the cemetery. Several of the intent to purchase forms should be available at the cemetery.

The current pricing was reviewed -- \$775 per grave for Village residents; \$825 for others. The fee to open a grave is \$750.

Next Meeting – The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on May 16, 2013 at 9:00 am.

On motion of Pres. Gray, seconded by Comm. Blackler it was unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Dundon, Clerk to the Boards