

## Stowe Cemetery Commission Meeting

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Approved 4/16/24

A meeting of the Stowe Cemetery Commission was held Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at 8:30 am via a Hybrid Zoom.

Members present: Donna Adams, Claire “Skeeter” Austin, Gail Kaiser, Nancy LaVanway, Judy Smith, Karin Gottlieb, Mike Lemaire

### Minutes

After review with changes made, the Minutes were approved as amended on a motion by Gail, seconded by Nancy.

### Treasurer’s Report

Skeeter said there was not much to report with zero change in the numbers. Investment fund was up 2.5%, Equities hovering at 38%.

Book Sale - Karin contacted the Historical Society to see if they would be interested in carrying the cemetery books and they requested six and will pay the Commission when the books are sold. There is a question whether it is necessary for the Historical Society to pay for the books. The Library said they would also like to have a copy. There was no further discussion.

The Treasurer’s Report was approved on a motion by Judy, seconded by Karin. All in favor.

### Remembrance Program Report

Skeeter reported that an Agenda Summary for the painting of the fence at West Branch was reviewed by the Selectboard which outlined that the Cemetery trust would pay 50% and Remembrance Program would pay 50% of the cost. The project was approved by the Selectboard. Skeeter said she is working with the Finance Department to fulfill the necessary requirements for the project.

Dedication Ceremony – Nancy, Judy and Gail met with the American Legion regarding arrangements for the ceremony including the playing of taps and a prayer. The Legion offered \$100 towards the dedication. There was discussion regarding beverages/donuts and flowers and Skeeter said she would handle the publicity for the ceremony. Other items discussed included the use of a sound system if necessary, trash removal and possible use of the Alchemist’s parking area. Skeeter said these details would all be confirmed at the next meeting of the Remembrance Program in May.

### Damage to West Branch Fence

Donna reviewed the damage with David. Posts and the fence were pulled out of the ground. A fence contractor has been contacted to make the repairs when the frost is out of the ground. The repair will be coordinated with the contractor who has been contracted to paint the fence. Donna will be following up with Matt regarding the repair timing. Costs will be covered by the Parks Department. Skeeter has followed up with the painting contractor and is aware of the situation.

## Superintendent's Report

Donna reported that David said the snowmobiles and equipment at Riverbank would be removed soon. He will removing two maples behind the White House and renting a lift to trim out some of the other maples. David recently posted "no access" and put the chain up at Riverbank due to recent weather conditions. David anticipates having a full staff this season.

Donna asked David if the timbers at the Memorial Garden wall could be repaired instead of incurring the expense of a stone wall. David thought that a stone wall would be better for that area.

Damage to stones at Riverbank – Nancy reported this morning that there were recent damages to stones. Donna will take a look after this meeting.

## Stone Restoration Contracts

Donna asked for a motion to approve the Heritage stone restoration contracts 5836 in the amount of \$10300 to be completed prior to June 30, 2024 and 5837 which is the remainder of \$3945 by October 31, 2024.

A motion was made by Nancy, seconded by Karin, to approve the Heritage Contracts 5836 and 5837 as presented. All were in favor.

## Corner Post Contract

There was discussion regarding the contracts received including from Livingston Farm and Vermont Monuments. On a motion by Skeeter seconded by Judy, the Commission approved the contract for three years with Vermont Monuments. Donna said she would be clarifying some details with Lindsay on the contract.

## Other items

Donna said she had been going through some of Barbara's old files looking for the Cemetery Book copyright. There was discussion regarding the spreadsheet that Barbara had worked on Cemetery sections. Nancy said she may have information and will check in a box given to her from Barbara's daughter. Donna said that retrieving any of this information would be very useful in order to computerize it for future use. Skeeter is also working on the spreadsheet issue.

Memorial Wall – Donna asked the Commission if they wished to pursue this project using trust fund monies for FY 26. Donna said she will request that Matt work on getting information and bids for this project to get it in the works. The Commission agreed.

Cemetery Books – Donna said she would continue working with Karin and continue trying to locate the supply. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the price to charge and who would pay the postage. Mike made a motion to charge \$20 plus postage, seconded by Karin. The motion failed. Donna said she would research postage costs and tabled the discussion until the April meeting.

There being no further business to conduct, Donna adjourned the meeting at 10:15 am. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 16, 2024. Minutes respectfully submitted by Susan Moeck.