

Stowe Cemetery Commission Meeting

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

Approved 6/18/24

A meeting of the Stowe Cemetery Commission was held Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at 8:30 am via a Hybrid Zoom.

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

Others Present: Matt Frazee, David Danforth

Election of Officers

Slate of Officers – Donna Adams, Chair; Judy Smith, Vice Chair; Skeeter Austin, Treasurer

Gail made a motion to approve the slate as presented, seconded by Nancy. Motion carried. Donna opposed.

Superintendent’s Report

Cremains Garden – David said they are having problems with the placement of markers especially when adding a second person. Donna said the markers should be installed by Town personnel only and that may help with the placement issue

Donna said she will be taking a look at the Cremation Garden and invited others to attend.

Other projects: He is having a problem with a woodchuck at West Branch and may have to call in pest control.

David said they will start working on the buildings this summer and using composite materials for repairs. He said they will be replacing the threshold on the vault.

Capital Bid Process – Matt explained that an initial estimate will be obtained. Then a Capital request is prepared with input from Harry and David which will then go to a Town Meeting vote. If it is approved, a request for bids will be prepared. After bids are reviewed, one is selected and the funds will be available July 1.

David suggested starting out on a smaller project with the upper wall and see how it works out.

There was discussion regarding replacing or repairing the timbers. David said it was necessary to tear out the lower section and add drainage. Donna asked David for a solid estimate to do this work. He noted that a stone wall will last forever where a timber wall will last 12-15 years.

Stone Restoration – Donna said there were 4-5 stones flagged by Bruce before he left at River Bank. Someone will have to come in and give an estimate. Donna will gather information on them and ask Lindsay to obtain quotes to get them done this summer. The other project is to finish up the cleaning at West Branch with Scott.

Minutes

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

Work Orders

Charles Ayers – Nancy made a motion to table for further information, seconded by Skeeter. Motion approved.

Karen Goodhue – On a motion by Skeeter, seconded by Gail, the Work Order was approved.

Elroy Towle Sr. – Gail made a motion to table for further information, seconded by Skeeter. Motion approved.

Charles and Barbara Chandler -Section 7 – Judy made a motion to table for further information, seconded by Gail. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report

Income is up result of burials and lot sales and labor. Trust Fund income is down a bit due to the market. The money market is down due to the deposit for West Branch work and the annual distribution of \$8500 to the Parks Department. Expenditures from the Remembrance Program totaled \$10,929 which included the fence painting and the sign at West Branch. All of Barbara's donation monies have been spent from the Program and a little bit more from the Cemetery Trust.

On a motion by Nancy, seconded by Gail, the Treasurer's Report was approved.

Remembrance Program

A site visit was conducted for the ceremony location for Memorial Day and Skeeter suggested some areas to be tidied up. There was a discussion regarding final details for the Memorial Day dedication.

Other Business – Donna asked the members to think about the following - a stone wall versus a timber wall. Do they want to use Trust Fund money versus a capital request. Would they like to purchase trees for the back of the white house? Think about the entrance at River Bank.

There being no further business to conduct, Donna adjourned the meeting. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 18, 2024. Minutes respectfully submitted by Susan Moeck.