

Stowe Cemetery Commission Meeting  
Tuesday, June 18, 2024  
Approved 7/16/24

A meeting of the Stowe Cemetery Commission was held Tuesday, June 18, 2024 at 8:30 am via a hybrid/Zoom meeting.

Members Present: Donna Adams, Gail Kaiser, Judy Smith, Nancy Lavanway, Karin Gottlieb  
Janet Godin Absent: Claire “Skeeter” Austin Others Present: Christine Kaiser

Donna introduced Janet Godin newly appointed to fill Mike Lemaire’s seat and Christine Kaiser who has expressed interest in serving on the Cemetery Commission as an alternate. She explained that the Selectboard is in the process of reviewing the necessary Cemetery Rules and Regulations in order to add an alternate position in the future. An alternate to the commission will participate in discussions but vote only in the absence of a duly appointed member. Other town Boards have added alternate positions.

#### Minutes

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

#### Update from Edward Jones Representative

Caren Merson was in attendance and reviewed the annual report she submitted to the Commission on current status of accounts. There was discussion on the types of accounts the Commission has and where monies are invested or held. Caren suggested investing \$5000 in a one year CD at this time and also rolling over a \$3000 CD which matures at the end of July. The Commission was in agreement with her recommendation. She also said she would be rebalancing the stock allocation to 37% as mandated by the State. The Commission thanked Caren for the update and report.

#### Discussion with Sarah McShane regarding Town Plan

Planning and Zoning Director Sarah McShane gave a brief review of the Town Plan background and how the Plan is used as a tool for the municipality and what information is included. She noted this is a multi-year process in developing recommendations with the next Plan to be produced in 2026. Sarah asked the Commission to review and discuss the Cemetery section in the next few months and make changes or recommendations. She said she would be happy to attend one of their meetings to assist in any revisions the Commission would like to make.

#### Treasurer's report/Remembrance Program report

The Commission reviewed Skeeter’s report. There was no further discussion. On a motion by Nancy, seconded by Judy, the Treasurer’s Report was accepted.

Donna thanked the American Legion Auxiliary, Remembrance Program and those involved in West Branch dedication on Memorial Day.

#### Superintendent's report

Donna discussed some of the projects David is working on regarding trees.

Review Heritage Memorial Contract for 2024/25 Stone Restoration & Cleaning at West Branch - On an amended motion made by Nancy, seconded by Karin, the Commission accepted Heritage Contract 6190 in the amount of \$10,500 billable after July 1, 2024.

#### Work Orders

There was discussion regarding Vermont Monuments and design and placement discrepancies involving recent markers. Donna said she is not pleased and has had emails back and forth with Jeff. She has told him that he is not permitted to do any work without approval, paperwork in hand and contact with David. Donna will draft a letter for the Commission's review/approval reiterating what steps Vermont Monuments need to follow.

Charles Ayers lot--approval for slant marker for Margaret Andrade and her husband and cleaning for other memorials on the lot. After discussion, Nancy made a motion to approve the Work Order, seconded by Nancy. All in favor.

Edward Markert – Edward Markert flush marker, size slightly off; Tina Salls with notation that no babies are buried in the lot. Marker to be placed next to Lorna Spaulding, where cremated remains will be interred when the time comes. After discussion, Nancy made a motion to approve the Work Order with a Condition that the corner markers be put in place, seconded by Judy. All in favor.

Elroy Towle Jr. approved a bevel marker on his father's lot. Judy made a motion to approve the Work Order, seconded by Karin. All were in favor.

Charles and Barbara Chandler- flush marker was designed and dropped off on the lot without approval by the commission, but it is correct size and location.

Larson - There was no work order for Larson, which was designed and installed poorly in advance of an interment on the lot by Jeff Pignona.

#### Discuss Trust Fund Projects

Donna reviewed the projects that have been continued to be discussed – timber vs stone wall, River Bank entrance and construction of new wall. There was interest in a stone wall and not a timber wall. Donna said she would ask David for more information on what type of stone etc he would suggest and what it might look like.

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