

Hillside Memorial Cemetery and Park Committee Meeting April 22, 2014

Members Present: Heather Stevens (Trustee/Liaison), Bruce Meldrim (Cemetery Commissioner), Linda Murphy, Mike Ours, Penny Faulter, Andrew Traub (Traub Funeral Home Representative/Committee Chairperson) and Mark LaRobardiere (Watson Funeral Home Representative).

Absent: Millard & Linda Murphy and Jean Breed.

The meeting began at 11:00am.

The minutes from the September 18, 2013 meeting were reviewed and accepted.

New Member wanted: We still have 1 vacancy on the committee.

Old Business:

Stonewall on North Main: Repair was a success but showing some cracking (as well as first wall) that needs repair.

Columbarium: Per Village Board approved minutes January 27, 2014... Trus. Stevens needs pricing on installing a foundation, pavers and stampcete for the columbarium for the cemetery committee.

Trus. Urbaniak made a motion that the Board does not feel that a columbarium would be of the best interest of the Village or Hillside Cemetery at this time. Trus. Gervaise seconded the motion. The Board was polled and the motion was passed. Trus. Stevens abstained.

Trees: Heather presented information from Kim Perry in regards to the inventory, analysis, plan and action taken in regards to tree planting at cemetery. Everyone seemed very pleased that we are moving forward with this item.

Creman section/garden: At this time we do not see a need to develop this space and due to the current condition of the southern border of the cemetery feel those issues need to be addressed first so more atheistically pleasing. (ie. Driveway, fencing issues etc)

Second usage fee: The committee has mixed feelings on this topic. Heather will compile all of the input and submit in consideration form to the village board after approval from the Cemetery committee members.

New Business:

Improvement Plan: Although we have a beautiful cemetery, there is some concern as to the upkeep. The cemetery is showing its age and wear. There are several areas that need attention. The cemetery committee would like to see these addressed if financially possible in addition to more time allotted by employees/Bruce to actually maintain the property. Areas of concern include but are not limited to: peeling and rotting benches, single sided culvert, touch up painting on building and post, stone wall cracks and crumbles, headstones- broken, tipped over, sinking, moss and fungus covered etc. Heather will do some follow up on the legality of how much we can do. (Mike Seelman, Senior investigator **New York State Division of Cemeteries**). It was also asked what if any budget is in place for these kinds of items, can and how do we contact lot owners.

Open Forum:

Commissioners Report: Bruce reported that lot sales have picked up. He has 8 spring burials with the first one being this Friday 4/25/2014. He is behind on foundations. Has only had a couple of hours yesterday and today in cemetery and focusing on raking, sticks and clean up.

Publicity Brochure: Heather mentioned talking with Kim Perry on a brochure to highlight area of cemetery as well as provide purchasing information of graves.

Equipment: Currently Mr. Bill Avery does our digging. Due to health concerns we should start considering what we will do when he is no longer able to provide this service. Village employees can do it but would need to look at purchasing a track hoe (especially for new burial section). This could also be used for DPW work.

The next scheduled meeting was set for Tuesday September 16, 2014. Heather will touch base with Mr. Traub as it gets closer. She will also have village secretary phone with confirmation and reminder of meeting to committee members.

The meeting ended at 12:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by Heather Stevens