

**Hillside Memorial Cemetery and Park
Committee Meeting (UNAPPROVED Minutes)
September 16, 2014**

Members Present: Heather Stevens (Trustee/Liaison), Bruce Meldrim (Cemetery Commissioner), Linda Murphy, Mike Ours, Penny Faulter, Millard & Linda Murphy, Jean Breed and Mark LaRobardiere (Watson Funeral Home Representative).

Absent: Andrew Traub (Traub Funeral Home Representative/Committee Chairperson)

The meeting began at 11:00am.

The minutes from the April 22, 2014 meeting were reviewed and accepted.

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

Old Business:

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.

A member of the committee has gathered more information which includes the finical potential in the board relooking at purchasing a columbarium. It would be a capital investment for perpetual care. Location would be Lot #1. The nearest columbarium's currently to Central Square are North Syracuse and Pine Plans in Clay. That leaves a huge are of potential need (North Shore, Parish, Pulaski, Mexico etc). Other than in the City of Oswego County there are no others in this county.

To date since 2011 Hillside has had 84 burials and 40 cremains. Mark reported about 40% of funerals are cremains...but that may level off some. Some of the numbers (Investment): 64 Niches approximately \$25,000. Charge a comparable rate of \$875.00 per niche and would be return of \$5,600 on \$25,000..net profit about \$31,000. Our present fund is about \$105,000. We are receiving \$8-\$9.00 a

month so only about \$100.00 a year. Many places charge \$500 to engrave, cost is about \$350.00. The committee will be making a formal presentation to the Village Board at their November 10th meeting. Mike Ours also mentioned tier pricing.

Second usage fee: Mike Ours mentioned again the importance of this as well as the phrasing “Right to burial” on deed. We are hoping he can also speak to board on November 10th regarding this.

Improvement Plan: Although we have a beautiful cemetery, there are continued concerns to maintenance. There is still a need for the village to allow Bruce more time in the cemetery-vs- DPW. 3 benches have been replaced but there are still 8 more we need (one actually fell apart). Bruce also mentioned the need for some new equipment such as weed whackers.

New Business/Open Forum:

No new business

Commissioners Report: Bruce was at beginning of meeting but had to leave for a funeral.

The next scheduled meeting was set for Monday January 12, 2015. Heather will have village secretary phone with confirmation and reminder of meeting to committee members.

The meeting ended at 12:05pm.

Respectfully submitted by Heather Stevens