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VERNON CEMETERY COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF

March 9, 2021

The regular meeting of the Vernon Cemetery Commission was called to order at 3:00 p.m. via ZOOM network by Chairman Bruce Luddy. Members present were Bruce Luddy, Stuart Edwards, Norine Edwards, TeriLynn Rogers and Wayne Reiske. Also present were Superintendent Travis Clark and Secretary Carol Nelson.

Approval of Minutes – A motion was made by Wayne Reiske, seconded by Stu Edwards and unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2020 regular meeting as presented.

Superintendent's Report –

- a. Staffing – Two seasonal laborers are needed with the hopes of having them begin full-time at the end of April. It is uncertain if the previous staff will be returning. Hiring will be through the temporary agency as arranged by the Human Resources Department.
- b. Financial Report – The Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Financial Report along with statistical information was discussed and questions answered. The trend is for increased cremations and fewer full burials.
- c. Budget – The Budget for FY 21-22 has been submitted for review by the Mayor. It reflects a 5% decrease due to benefits. Capital improvements reflect a six-year plan and include a mower next year, another mower in four years, and a backhoe in 2026. We have had tremendous assistance from the Dept. of Public Works in guidance and maintenance of our vehicles. The new dump truck is in and is having its body installed. The old truck will be sold probably at auction.

Unfinished Business –

- a. Tri Fold walking tour brochure at Grove Hill – Twenty copies of the completed brochure were with samples printed and distributed to Committee members and Administration for comments and suggestions. Positive feedback was received. TeriLynn Rogers will work with her intern on page layout and Bruce and Jean Luddy will review the script for any errors or suggestions. Photos of all the stones are included in the brochure. The brochures will available in racks located near the office and also the chapel.
- b. Veterans Memorial Walkway- Brick campaign – The engraver will be cutting the bricks for the new orders that have been received and the bricks installed this spring. It was suggested to put the brick availability purchase in the brochure in the Lugg Field section.

New Business –

- a. Dobsonville accident update – The insurance company is paying for the repairs to the broken marker. The marker will be cleaned and set with the ruts to be repaired by the cemetery staff.

- b. Dobsonville fence proposal – A guardrail is being investigated as a way to protect the monuments. Prices have been obtained for the metal and cable guardrails, both new and used, to go along Rt. 83 and also Dobson Road. Vernon Public Works and the CT DOT are being consulted to determine requirements. The existing barrier stones can be relocated to the new parking lot at Valley Falls Cemetery. Preliminary prices are in the range of \$7,000 to \$10,000.
- c. Grove Hill signage – The existing large sign at the Cemetery Avenue is in need of replacement. A replacement sign has been selected that includes an enclosed rubberized tackboard. The cemetery map can be placed within the sign and will be protected from the elements. Free standing brochure holders are also needed for the new walking tour with one to be placed by the sign and the other at the chapel. The cost is estimated at \$2200 with monies available from the Wilfred Lutz account, designed to benefit the cemetery.
A motion made by Norine Edward, seconded by TerriLynn Rogers and unanimously approved to purchase the sign and two brochure boxes for Grove Hill Cemetery along with a small brass plaque honoring Wilfred Lutz, using the funds from the Lutz account.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by TerriLynn Rogers, seconded by Stu Edwards with the meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.



Carol S. Nelson

Secretary

Approved: June 15, 2021