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VERNON CEMETERY COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF

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June 15, 2021

The special meeting of the Vernon Cemetery Commission was called to order at 3:04 p.m. by Chairman Bruce Luddy at the Grove Hill Cemetery Office Building, 22 Cemetery Avenue. Members present were Bruce Luddy, Stuart Edwards, Norine Edwards, and Wayne Reiske. TeriLynn Rogers was absent. Also present were Superintendent Travis Clark and Secretary Carol Nelson.

Approval of Minutes – A motion was made by Norine Edwards, seconded by Wayne Reiske and unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2021 regular meeting as presented.

Superintendent's Report –

- a. Rediscovering History – Travis introduced Michael Carroll, of the CT Nonprofit Volunteer Group called Rediscovering History who joined the meeting via cell phone. The group is comprised of volunteers with the age range of fourteen to seventy. Older cemeteries are cleaned of debris, stone repaired and straightened. Work has been performed in Eastern Connecticut on weekends using approved materials and methods. The volunteers are not covered with insurance, but their work is monitored closely. In many cases the work will take more than one day to complete. The website for the group is rediscovering-history.com. It is hoped that Dobsonville Cemetery will be on the list for the fall.
- b. Staffing – One seasonal laborer is working through the temporary agency as arranged by the Human Resources Department. Another is desperately needed to keep with the work.
- c. Foundations – Over twenty-five foundations were poured in the three active cemeteries and an additional nine government markers. Redi-Mix Concrete was used rather than mixing the cement ourselves. This is a real time and money saver with all the work done in two hours.
- d. David Allis Headstone - The original headstone has been placed at the First Congregational Church of Vernon near their memorial garden. This is most appropriate as David Allis was instrumental in the establishment of the church in what was then called North Bolton. The first meetings of the church were held in his home. The church was excited to welcome the stone and has landscaped a special area for its display along with a memorial plaque.

Unfinished Business –

- a. Tri Fold walking tour brochure at Grove Hill – The new signage along with the brochure boxes is expected to arrive soon. They have been delayed by the pandemic.
- b. Veterans Memorial Walkway- Brick campaign – Seven bricks were engraved and installed in the walkway. The lettering was done by a new engraver in Torrington.
- c. Dobsonville accident update – The damaged stones were repaired and installed by AtlasPreservation in Southington. The insurance company of the motorist causing the accident paid for the damage.

- d. Dobsonville fence proposal – The project is on hold with options being investigated. Of concern is the location of a utility pole as well as possible unmarked grave sites that may need the use of ground penetrating radar to verify the availability of a possible fence line.
- e. Grove Hill signage – This backorder signage is expected to arrive soon. Monies from the Wilfred Lutz account will be used for this purchase. Daughter Gail Lutz Sheffelbine has been contacted and is glad to hear of the plans to use the funds in this manner.
- f. New Dump Truck – The dump truck and plow arrived in May. It is a 350, gas powered. The old truck will be auctioned off. Although it has low mileage the body has rust.

New Business – Concerned was expressed about the condition of the chapel. It is hoped that plans will be forthcoming for its restoration and the elimination of bats that have taken up residence.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Wayne Reiske, seconded by Stu Edwards with the meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.


Carol S. Nelson

Secretary

Approved: *Sept 14, 2021*