

**Town of Somers Cemetery Committee Meeting
Wednesday, April 8, 2009, 7pm, Somers Town Hall**

I. Call Meeting to Order

Meeting called to order at 7 p.m.

Present: Chairperson Carole Pyne, Ed Sullivan, George Warner and Irene Percoski

Also present: Lisa Coope, Town Treasurer's office

Guests: Mary Beth Weston and Steve Bercume

II. Read and Approve Minutes from October 8, 2008 and Special Meeting Minutes, Thursday, January 8, 2009, and Special Meeting February 19, 2009.

G. Warner: Moved to approve all minutes noted-seconded by Ed Sullivan – so moved.

III Audience Comments

A. Replace a tree in Center Cemetery, Mr. Jenkins, 781 North Road, Maine, 04463; lot #360. Mr. Gil Vasseur's comments on tree.

Mrs. Weston: Tree on plot by niece's grave-most of bark off tree-purchased by Mr. Jenkin's (Mrs. Weston's father) in need of replacement.

B. Other: Mr. Bercume stated difficulty maintaining trees planted in the grass should have mulch around it.

After much discussion, our Committee will replace and choose tree from listing-if Japanese Maple is one of the trees allowed.

Chairperson will notify Mr. Jenkins of action taken.

IV Cemetery complaints & comments from Treasurer's Office:

A. Legal notice in the JI March 20, 2009

Mrs. Coope related to the Committee phone calls made to individuals regarding cleanup around gravesites removing decorative items-mentioning notice in newspaper. Also called All Saints Church. All Saints Church placed the notice in church Sunday's Bulletin. Chairperson commented Mrs. Coope did a lot of calling and perhaps stopped the complaints.

B. Other: The McCloskey baby's grave-lots of decorations around-limit items-extra items should be placed in box. Larabee grave- lots of decorations-could not weed wack at cleanup-called family and reported problem. Barend grave-cannot

connect-will call Gordon Mello-nephew- to inform need to remove excessive decorations.

V. Bids

A. lawn cutting, awarded at last Special Meeting

B. for grave digging, ONE YEAR contract, not two years.

Mr. Bercume: maintain W. Springfield Jewish Cemetery-30 acres-Connecticut Valley Landscaping does the work-lots of experience.

Committee set date for Special Meeting-to review the two bids for Grave digging-April 24, 2009 at 10:00 am at Town Hall.

C. cremation garden

Depends on Treasurer's Report- no bids received. Committee considering visiting Cremation Garden in Hazardville, CT-North Street area. No set date.

D. other: Gravesites- make them bigger

VI. Discuss Changes to Cemetery Regulations If we were to do Cremation Gardens there would be a regulation for that.

VII. Unable to give answer to Mrs. Lucille Sawicki, because surveying needs to be done for whole area, not just behind her house. At this time, we have no plans to enlarge the cemetery except for possible cremation garden.

VIII. Discuss future changes to "deed": wording-change burial rights".

G. Warner: will contact Atty. Lance Shannon to research/ wording.

IX. Discuss an increased price for burial plots, foundations, and digging services to cover our increased costs. Will increase price next year 2010.

X. Secretary, Irene Percoski will return Somers Town Computer to Treasurer/Finance office. Minutes done and posted on town web site as soon as possible. Computer has been returned to Town Hall.

XI. Other-none

XII. Treasurer/Financial Report

Ed Sullivan: gave lengthy account on condition of our investments. Have not moved any money out of investments to pay bills-interesting upbeat report.

XIII. Adjourned: Motion to Adjourn-8:35 pm-so moved.

Respectfully,

