

SOMERS CEMETERY COMMITTEE

JANUARY 8, 2014

Attendance: Carole Pyne (chair), Ed Sullivan, George Warner, Patricia Loftus, David Morgan

Guests: Michael Marinaccio (Somers CFO)

David McCaffrey (Somers Legion Post)

Approval of minutes October 9, 2013 as amended. (April meeting will be at 2 PM not 7 PM as originally planned.) – Motion made by George Warner and seconded by Ed Sullivan. Motion passed.

Reports:

Somers Finance Office – July 1, 2013 – December 31, 2013, 8 lots sold (\$12,800.00) Reported by Mr. Marinaccio.

Complaints: 1. Cynthia Parker (daughter of Herb Wells) concerned about snow plowing schedule. Cemeteries are plowed M-F after town streets are cleared. 2. Doug Dubuque, letter of 12.4.13, leaf control, blowing debris from cemeteries. (Vendors are not allowed on private property.)

Treasurer: For the quarter 10.13 – 12.13. Investments are up an average of 5%. Full spread sheet available from the treasurer online. David Morgan requested quarterly reports of expenses from town treasurer's office. Mr. Marinaccio agreed to provide this information in time for quarterly meetings.

American Legion: David McCaffrey reported that due to snow on 12.15 Wreaths Across America presentation was delayed until 12.24. Smaller than expected participation but hopeful for 2014.

Old Business:

- a. Cemetery signs will have changes and additions to include “no grave stone rubbings” and have regulation size for plot flags (12”x18”). Bids will be requested upon finalization of wording. (See motion below.)
- b. Center Cemetery Lipton side, final cleaning done at no charge. Thank you to Vasseur Landscaping.
- c. Connecticut Valley Landscaping requests that for safety reasons no planters to be allowed **in the ground** as trimmers and mowers could cause damage and workers and others might then be injured.

Motion made and passed: A sub-committee working meeting is to be held on January 27, 2014 at 2 PM in the Somers Town Hall lower level to finalize the wording for the updated sign proposals. Committee chair will contact the landscaping companies and sexton with an invitation to attend and/or offer ideas.

New Business:

- a. Cemetery maintenance, the landscapers have agreed to an extension of contracts at the same prices. This extension was allowed as stated on page four of the original bid in 2012.
- b. David Morgan spoke to the national changing trends of cemeteries having to place more cremations as opposed to traditional burials. He asked the committee to consider the creation of a Memorial Garden or columbarium on the grounds of Center Cemetery. He will give a presentation at the April meeting on this subject. Patricia Loftus added to this by requesting a veteran’s section to any planned addition.

Adjournment: 3:20 PM.

Next regular meeting: **Wednesday, April 16.2014 @ 2 PM.**