

Somers Cemetery Committee
Regular meeting
Wednesday May 8, 2024
MINUTES

1. Call to order: 6:30 PM

2. Member's present: David McCaffrey, David Morgan, Patricia Bachetti, Patricia Loftus (chair)

3. Public Comment: T. Schmidt (interest through Find A Grave volunteer group) Pleased we are choosing a program that will be helpful to those who search.

4. Review of the minutes from March 2024. Motion to approve: D. McCaffrey, 2nd David Morgan. Passed 4/0

5. Committees:

a. Finance: B. Wissinger: Progress on Irrevocable Trust. Morgan Stanley legal still looking at agreement. D. Urbon: Request to allow combination of two double graves into one larger unit so that one stone can be used not two. Committee to vote under new business.

b. Sexton – Not available.

c. Landscaping: No response to email

d. DPW: No matters requiring attendance.

e. American Legion: No response to email.

6. Old Business:

a. Concern forms: 1. Socha family no concerns about trees or shrubs. 2. Miller stone (wedge) needs to be put back on base. D. Urbon will talk with family and sexton for resolution. Stone was not damaged.

b. Center Cemetery landscape architect / RFP. D. Morgan will contact vendor. Town can use "vendor in place" exemption instead of going out to bid. Amount should be under required amount for bid.

c. Digital data programs from vendor presentations discussed. Only one of the three finalists fit all the criteria requested by B. Wissinger. (Online purchases specifically.) A contract was requested by B. Wissinger and was received. It was reviewed by Town of Somers legal resources with some changes requested then approved by the vendor.

Motion to recommend All Funerals as the vendor to the Board of Selectmen for their approval.

Motion: David Morgan, 2nd David McCaffrey. Vote 4/0 to recommend.

New Business:

a. Finance: Motion to approve combining 2 double plots into one 4 grave plot for the use of one family stone. Stone size must follow the rules in effect and used by the memorial companies in our cemeteries. Motion: David McCaffrey, 2nd David Morgan. Vote: 4/0

b. Sexton: No report

c. Landscaping: No in person report. (Spring cleaning done.) In ground bee activity found in North Cemetery. (Irish, Row 12, Lot 95, grave 4). To be remediated professionally. New West: Arborvitae. @"Sherriffs" No longer viable and to be removed by Mountain Tree through Financial Office contact.

d. DPW: No report.

e. American Legion: No report.

f. David Morgan will request formal proposal from G & W. to design outer ring on Center Cemetery. There is access to both printed and GPS mapping.

g. Completed.

h. Pricing update for grave sites: Request local pricing from sexton for July meeting with an increase anticipated. Request an effective date along with approval of both from the Board of Selectmen. Note: Area cemeteries, both municipal and religious are now selling at \$2,000 and up for doubles.

i. Short, informational discussion on possible approval from the state of CT of additional choices for disbursement of human remains. Apparently these choices could become legal in CT in the next year or so. More information to be discussed as available.

Adjournment: 7:26 PM

Next meeting: July 8, 2024

Patricia Loftus
Interim recording secretary