

Cemetery Board Meeting

Yearly Meeting Held at the Danube Town Barn on March 05, 2008 at 7 PM

1. President Rick Mosher called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.
2. All attendees said the Pledge of Allegiance immediately thereafter.
3. Roll call produced ayes from President Rick Mosher, Vice President Leonard Pross, and Secretary Sharon Polnak. Town Supervisor Charles Welden and town resident Eileen Warner attended.
4. There were no public comments.
5. There were no changes to the agenda, which was approved by Leonard Pross and seconded by Sharon Polnak.
6. Rick Mosher approved the 2007 cemetery board meeting minutes, with Len Pross seconding the motion.
7. Old business
 - a) Review and amend lot purchase procedures, interment rules:
 1. Rick Mosher reviewed the procedures from the protocol green binder, stating that everything in it is current and up to date, and kept locked in the archive room. Eileen Warner asked which cemeteries have burial sites available, to which Rick Mosher stated there are plots for sale in Garlock and Ostrander. There will also be more plots available when the Houpt cemetery expansion is finished.
 - b) Review financial status for year 2007-2008:
 1. Charles Welden provided copies of the Danube Cemetery Fund Money Received from 1998-2007. Total donated monies & lot sales from 1998 to now equaled \$8,884.50 minus 2007 CD amount of \$7,469.75 which equals \$1,414.75 to add to next available CD. The total portfolio value of IDS/Ameriprise accounts as of 01/16/08 is \$1,888.61, down from last year's amount of 1,977.61. CD#1, which combines old 1 & 2, is for 9 months from date of purchase and is earning 4.5% interest. CD#3 is for 1 year from date of purchase and was earning 3.5% interest, but is declining. Charles Welden will try to combine the two CD's to get a better interest for CD#3.
 2. Charles Welden also provided a copy of Cemetery Expenses from 1998-2007. The 2008 budget equals \$6,500 which, broken down, is \$2,000 for Personal Services, \$500 for Equipment and \$4,000 for Contractual Expense. Expenses for 2007 totaled \$913.13 for Personal Services, \$.00 for Equipment and \$687.73 for Contractual, well within the 2007 budget of \$6,500.00.
 3. The financial status was approved by Leonard Pross, and seconded by Sharon Polnak.
 - c) Update on Houpt Cemetery expansion project:
 1. Rick Mosher will try to meet up with Attorney Norm Mastromoro at the next town board meeting, on 03/11/08, to get the status of the land agreement for the Houpt cemetery expansion. Charles Welden will contact Norm and have him bring the final draft of the agreement to the meeting, as it was never given to landowners Pete Casadonte and Ellie VonWelsheim to consider. If Norm doesn't carry through on delivering this agreement, Rick will get it from him and deliver it to the landowners himself. Legal proceedings on the Bellinger cemetery "right of way easement" will wait until after the Houpt enlargement project has been completed.
 - d) Establish date and task list for spring cleanup, tentative date April 19, rain date April 26:
 1. There was no opposition to the dates. A request for donations from M & T Bank will be made for refreshments, and the Shoemaker Snowmobile Club will be used in case it rains.
 2. Go around to every cemetery to check for any problems, and fix them, if possible.
 3. Ostrander Cemetery will be the last stop, as there is still brush to be cleared away.
 4. Leonard Pross to have posts made for cemetery signs, which will be put up high enough so that they won't be vandalized. Signs will be fastened to posts with tabs and bolted in, and have a pitched roof to help keep weather off. The signs will be placed by roads nearest to the cemeteries.
 5. Rick will place a piece in the Evening Times newspaper about the cleanup day.
 - e) Maintenance for the year 2008:
 1. Fina Kula-Balderston and Charles Balderston will be contacted to see if they will do maintenance again for the year of 2008. An idea was brought up, by a town board member, that the employees doing the mowing should come to the town barn to sign in on the clock. The cemetery board was not in favor of this because it is not feasible to leave the cemetery machinery at the town barn, as normal hours are not always kept when it comes to mowing.
 2. There shouldn't be any need for replacement machinery, as far as the board knows. Rick Mosher brought up about the lawn tractor and trailer being in cold storage during winter months but not being covered during the mowing months. An enclosed trailer might be an option, but is very costly.

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- f) Other
 - 1. An inquiry was made, by a lady from Syracuse, about a family member named Philipius Baum, who is buried in a cemetery on Fords Bush Road. She told of an interesting anecdote about her grandfather writing the “Wizard of Oz” story. Charles Welden looked in a file he keeps, which was created by Doris Masi, Ina Cronkite, and Amy Schuyler. They amassed cemetery information and put it on 3 x 5 cards, but the name in question was not found.
- 8. There was no ‘New business’.
- 9. There were no ‘Board comments’.
- 10. The minutes were read back to, and approved by, the board and will be written up prior to the town board meeting.
- 11. Adjournment was at 7:56PM.