GRAND ISLE CEMETERY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

November 14 2023, 4:30 p.m., Grand Isle Town Office

Meeting was called to order by Valerie Hunter, Chair, at 4:30 p.m.

Commissioners present: Brian Allen, Lucille Campbell, Valerie Hunter, Sue Lawrence

Absent: Jane Pomykala.

Guests: None

Additions or deletions to the agenda: Lucille reported that she had been able to edit the Lot Cost page on the website to correct the cornerstone cost.

Sue moved to approve the September 21 Special Meeting minutes, Brian seconded. Passed, with all in favor.

Sue moved, Brian seconded that we approve the October 10, 2023 minutes. All in favor.

Administrative report:

Financial Report – moved to old business to discuss with budget.

Lawn Care & Maintenance

Lawn care bill received from Ron Bushway for $3,011.90

Caretaker bill from Wade Lawrence for $62.50

Bill for supplies from Brian Allen for $9.99

Burials/Lot Sales

1 double lot sold with 1 burial in the lot.

Query from Theresa Poquette in regard to using part of the Louis Baker lot for herself as she believes she is the only heir. Also a request from her that the cemetery remove a large maple tree that has encroached on the Louis Baker lot preventing more burials or reimburse her with another lot. Consensus of the commissioners was that use of the lot is up to the heirs of Louis Baker, not the Cemetery Commission, and that the Cemetery would do no tree cutting or reimbursement.

Fence – Brian Allen reported that he used parts of the old fence removed from the front of the cemetery to repair the section of the chain link fence damaged by the fallen tree. The Pickleball Association is no longer interested in the rest of the old chain link fence. Brian will store it in the vault over the winter.

Tree trimming – Brian has trimmed the maples along the main driveway as well as several other trees and removed the branches.

Cub Cadet tractor – The tractor is running. Brian estimates that if sold it would bring $300 or less. The wagon was donated to the cemetery and is in good condition. Consensus was that we offer both the tractor and the wagon for sale. Brian will post a “for sale” notice on Front Porch Forum - $300 or best reasonable offer for tractor and wagon together.

Sign post – Brian has put the “walking hazards” sign on a new post and installed it near the vault. We will decide in the spring what to do with the other metal signs.

Vault – The outside vault repair and new apron is very satisfactory. Tom & Pete Chappelow believe that the concrete roof was originally made in wedge forms on the ground and raised to the top of the building. The blocks are solid. The interior of the vault also needs repair. We will contact Half Moon Stone Works in the spring for an estimate.

Culvert – Sue contacted Matt at State Highway District #8 about the water issue at the Rt. 2 driveway culvert. He cleaned it out as best as he could. The top of the culvert has been damaged at some point which may affect the drainage. The State is not responsible for any work on the culvert or ditch drainage. We discussed what to do about the standing water on the front lawn. Consensus was to do nothing for the time being.

Budget FY 2024-2025 – Latest financial report was discussed and adjustments were made to the preliminary budget figures developed at the last meeting. Sue moved to approve the proposed budget of $27,400 for FY 2024-2025. Val seconded. All in favor. The Town appropriation requested is $22,700, an increase of $2250, of which $800 is for a stipend of $200 for 4 Commissioners. Lucille will send the budget to Angie. Sue and Lucille will represent the Cemetery Commission at the Selectboard meeting on Nov. 20, 2023 to present the budget.

Transfer of Due From/To Funds was tabled until December because we did not have the figures.

Sue moved to adjourn, Val seconded, passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

Next meeting December 12, 2023 at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucille Campbell, Recording Secretary