

DURHAM CEMETERY COMPANY
MEETING MINUTES
May 4, 2005

President Barbara Olsen, at 7:30pm at the Durham Public Library, called the meeting to order.

Officers and Directors Present: Bob White, Dick Olsen, Lew Hinman, Dolores Caturano, Laura Francis, Bob Atwell, Barbara Olsen, Tom Palmieri, Mary DiMella, Doug Harmon, Ann Shepardson, Art Bielefield, Phyllis Naples-Valenti

Secretary's Report: A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of 3-2-05 and 3-14-05. The motion passed unanimously.

Sexton's Report: Ken Jay submitted a report that there was one cremation burial in the Center Cemetery. There were four full burials, one cremation burial and one lot sold at Mica Hill Cemetery. A new flag was installed at the Center Cemetery. All Christmas decorations were removed in April. Spring cleanups were performed at all three cemeteries. Settled graves at Mica Hill Cemetery were filled and seeded. Lawn mowing has begun at the Center Cemetery and at Mica Hill Cemetery.

Ken submitted a bid to plot out Block 7 for \$1,750 for the site work. Bob White recommended waiting to proceed with Block 7 until we are sure we are not encroaching on an abutting landowner. Laura Francis agreed, adding that the plotting of Block 7 should be made part of the long-range plan for the entire property.

A motion to accept the Sexton's report was made and seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report –

1. Tom Palmieri reported that dividends and interest income is growing as planned. Revenue for lot sales and grave openings is up. Maintenance expenses is also up, mainly due to billing timing. There were no trades in the investment portfolio to report. The net worth of the portfolio is down approximately 2.9%, which is better than the major indexes. Tom will meet with a financial advisor from ADVEST in June or July to seek advice for future investment. Overall, the budget is in balance.
2. Hazelwood has increased the cost of opening a grave from \$400 to \$500 due to increases in fuel and labor. A discussion ensued regarding the need to pass along the increase to our customers. Art Bielefield made a motion, which was seconded by Dick Olsen, to ask Phyllis Naples-Valenti to negotiate a better price from Hazelwood if possible and to solicit a bid from Ken Jay on grave opening. The motion passed unanimously.
3. To date \$19,600.00 has been spent on stone preservation.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the treasurer's report. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

President's Report –

1. Barbara Olsen passed around the final report on the preservation work. The report will remain at the town hall.
2. Barbara Olsen appointed Mary DiMella, Bob Atwell and Lew Hinman to a Long Range Planning subcommittee. The charge of the committee is to research companies that can plan and plot the remaining property at Mica Hill Cemetery. The committee is to report at the next meeting in September.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the President's report. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Old Business

1. A bid for stonewall repair was submitted by Ken Jay for \$4,150 which includes material and labor. A proposal to rebuild the entire wall was submitted to Bob Atwell from DeFrancesco for \$14,406.73. All agreed to put the stonewall repair on hold until after the town hall renovation is complete.

2. Lew Hinman reported that the tree on the fence line of Center Cemetery is on the list to be removed by the town. It will be removed when funding is available.
3. Dolores Caturano announced that spring cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, May 21, 2005 at 9:00am with a rain date of Friday, May 27, 2005 at 9:00am. She estimates 1-2 hours of work to be done. She planted more hosta that was donated. It is not necessary to buy any bushes this year, however the rosy barberry bushes need fertilizer and all beds need mulch.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn at 8:30 p.m.

Submitted by Laura Francis, Secretary