

Durham Cemetery Company

September 3, 2008

Minutes

President Hugh Curley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Durham Town Hall Meeting Room.

Officers and Directors Present: Hugh Curley, Richard Olsen, Greg Burritt, Laura Francis, Barbara Olsen, Simone Howe, Mary DiMella, Tom Palmieri, Gerry Brown, Dolores Caturano, Peg Atwell, Ken Jay.

Secretary's Report:

Corrections to the May 7, 2008 minutes as follows:

- 1) Correct the spelling of Gerry Brown from "J" to "G"

Motion by Laura Francis, seconded by Several to approve May 7, 2008 minutes as corrected. Motion passed unanimously.

Sexton's Report:

There was one cremation at Center Cemetery. There were two burials, three cremations and three lots sold at Mica Hill Cemetery. The lawns are being mowed on a ten day schedule at all three cemeteries.

Motion made by Laura Francis, seconded by several to approve the Sexton's Report as submitted. Motion passed unanimously with Gerry Brown abstaining.

Hugh Curley reported that a stone was down in a pathway in the Old Cemetery. Ken Jay will put it back in place by replacing the base. Ken Jay will bill the cemetery for the repair.

Several members mentioned that the sign at Mica Hill Cemetery should be replaced or repaired. Laura Francis asked that the sign by the road near Route 77 also be repaired.

Motion made by Barbara Olsen, seconded by Gerry Brown to replace sign at entrance of Mica Hill and at the intersection of Mica Hill Road and Route 17. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Greg Burritt asked Ken Jay if he talked to Hazelwood about performance. Greg is concerned that the graves are not filled enough, causing settling and more work for the Sexton. Ken Jay responded that that is a normal occurrence and part of his job as a Sexton to fill in graves after settling.

Treasurer's Report:

Tom Palmieri reported that expenses are on track as budgeted. Income has exceeded operational expenses.

The investment portfolio has not changed. He invested \$200,000 of cash and bought bonds as approved at a previous meeting. Tom recommends staying the course through these economic uncertain times. Our portfolio is not doing too poorly considering the market. Dividend income is steady but he believes it will decrease over the next year.

Tom also reported that there will be a Town Meeting on September 10 to take \$13,900 out of reserve to reimburse the Cemetery Company for stone repair. There will be \$6,100 left for further restoration work.

Motion by Laura Francis, seconded by several to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion passed unanimously.

President's Report:

A. Hugh Curley reported that he will contact Hank Robinson, Public Safety Superintendent for the Durham Fair regarding access to the Center Cemetery during fair time.

B. Hugh Curley reported that he spoke with Laura Francis, First Selectman and Kurt Bober, Road Foreman regarding widening the road at Mica Hill and repairing the road at the Center Cemetery. The projects will be planned and cost estimated for a possible spring execution if budget and timing allows.

Old Business:

- 1) Greg Burritt asked if stones that have deteriorated inscriptions can be restored which led to a discussion on how we decide which stones should be restored. Laura Francis recommended setting criteria such as only stones of notable figures or artistic value as well as level of restorability. Hugh Curley said he will look into creating an inventory and criteria.

New Business:

- 1) Barbara Olsen stated that she will contact United Churches to ask for someone to participate in the dedication of the Chauncey crypt. A date will be determined for sometime in the spring.

- 2) Greg Burritt asked that he have permission to spend the remaining \$200.00 that was approved for fall planting to be used in the spring. He will continue to divide and move perennials this fall. He received unanimous approval.

Adjourn: Motion by several and seconded by several to adjourn at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Francis
Assistant Secretary