

COOKE'S CEMETERY BOARD MEETING

Pefferlaw Lions Hall

THURSDAY, March 7, 2019

1. WELCOME:

This is the first meeting of the Cooke's Cemetery Board for the next four-year term of Council and the appointment letters from The Town of Georgina have been received. Greg Forrest agreed to be the Chairperson and called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

2. PRESENT:

Jane Clyde, Sandra James, Gail Moore and Greg Forrest.

3. ABSENT:

Councillor Dave Harding.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Moved by Sandra James, Seconded by Jane Clyde that the Agenda be approved as distributed. AIF

5. MINUTES OF THE MEETING – November 1, 2018:

There were no errors or omissions and it was **Moved by Sandra James, Seconded by Jane Clyde** that the minutes be adopted as written. AIF

6. TREASURER'S REPORT:

Jane reported that the Bank Balance as of January 31, 2019 is \$13,981.73. The bank statement for February has not been received so figures for that month are not complete. **MOVED BY Jane Clyde, Seconded by Sandra James** that the Treasurer's Report be accepted as presented. AIF

Jane advised that Greg and Jane had met in January and prepared the financial reports for 2018 and had submitted them to the Town. These have been approved by the Town and the audited report has been returned to us.

Moved by Gail Moore, Seconded by Jane Clyde that Larry Proctor be removed as a signing authority on the Bank Account and Sandra James be added. AIF

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Jane will make the necessary arrangements at the bank and take the required documentation

7. BUSINESS:

(A) Positions on the Board -

Jane agreed to continue as Treasurer, Gail as Secretary and Greg as Chairperson. Gail will send a card of thanks to Larry for his past dedication and hard work for the Cemetery and invite him to continue a relationship with the Board and attend meetings if he so wishes.

The Orientation Manuals from the Town were given to the Board Members and Gail will prepare a new list of addresses and telephone numbers for the members of the Board.

(B) Maintenance Items -

Sandra will review the work schedule for the cemetery which she had previously made and will make changes as necessary. It is hoped that we will be able to start cleaning up the grounds a bit earlier this year – perhaps in April. A work date will be set at our next meeting.

Maintenance items to be attended to:

- the hedge needs to be trimmed and completed to the south-end fence on the east side.
- the garden at the pedestrian entrance needs to have a lot of work done and we need to ask the Town for assistance with this.
- tree removal – has this been completed.
- pruning and trimming of the low branches on some of the trees in the cemetery.
- weeds need to be removed on the north end of the cemetery.
- the water tap will not be available for use until the new firehall is completed, therefore, we need to ask the Town about barrels so that watering can be done.

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(C) Planning for Decoration Date -

Because of Gail's travel, plans, for this year only, the Board agreed to change the date of Decoration Day to the last Sunday in May, the 26th, 2019. After a short discussion it was agreed that Jane would ask Debbi Celsi to be the speaker again this year. Jane will get in touch with her and find out if she is available on this date. In addition, she discuss the music

Larry will be approached to see if he would be willing to help this year.

Prior to the date the Communications Department at the Town will be notified so that the event can be advertised in the Advocate on the town Page.

8. COUNCILLOR DAVID HARDING'S REPORT:

David was unable to attend so there was no report. Gail will send David an email to advise him of the date of the next meeting.

9. OTHER BUSINESS:

(A) Soil -

Piles of soil result from the excavation of burial plots and also a supply of soil is needed to top up the grave sites. The Board needs to make a decision about how to deal with this. Greg will ask Gordon Lightfoot about the cost to remove the soil that he excavates when a grave is dug. Sandra is going to investigate various methods and materials that could be used to hide the piles of soil.

(B) Scattering Garden and/or Columbarium -

Greg noted that last year the Board Members had suggested that a Columbarium might be considered as an addition to the Cemetery. There are many different types. The one in Keswick has a capacity of 40 units and the cost of a vault varies according to its position in the structure. If we do decide to erect a columbarium, its location within the cemetery would need

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to be approved by the Bereavement Authority of Ontario. Greg said that he is not convinced that columbariums will not require some maintenance so he is not sure of their feasibility in the long term.

Greg suggested that the Board might want to consider having a scattering garden within the cemetery as these are becoming more popular.. As some of the Board Members (Gail, Jane and Sandra) are not familiar with these, it was suggested that we visit some of the local cemeteries to view their columbariums and scattering gardens – the Stone Church in Beaverton, Queensville Cemetery, etc.

Gail asked Sandra to pick a day when we could make the tour.

(C) Information Pamphlets –

The promotional pamphlets for the Keswick and Cooke’s Cemetery have been completed and are very attractive and informative. Greg will call the Town to find out where in Georgina these are being made available.

10. NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be on Thursday, April 4. 2019 at 7:30 p.m. at the Pefferlaw Lions Hall.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Jane Clyde that this meeting be adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

_____ Chair _____ Secretary
Greg Gail Moore