

Fountain Hill Cemetery Association Board of Directors

1. Richard Forristall **called to order** the meeting of November 19, 2018, at **Richard H Smith Town Hall at 7:00 pm.**

1a. **Members in Attendance:** Matt Elgart Rhonda Forristall Richard Forristall Robert Larson Mark Lowrey
Jayne Mather Susan Miron Scott Nelson Arthur Thompson

2a. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the regular meeting of September 17, 2018 were approved as written.
Motion by: Scott Nelson Second: Jayne Mather Vote: Unanimous

2b. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the special meeting held on October 15, 2018 were approved as written.
Motion by: Mark Lowrey Second: Rhonda Forristall Vote: Unanimous

3. **Communications:** President Forristall reported on an email from Ruth Brown, Connecticut Gravestone Network, regarding using old cemetery space for new burials. Apparently, there is an issue in a cemetery in Bridgeport that has reached its capacity, resulting in a loss of income. Thus, maintenance of the cemetery has been less than adequate. There was general agreement that Fountain Hill Cemetery deeds entitle owners to possession of their plots in perpetuity. President Forristall indicated that Fountain Hill may run out of full-burial space, but not in the foreseeable future. Additional full-burial space may be created by filling in existing space to achieve adequate depth for full burial. There is much remaining space for cremation burials.

4. **President's Report:** Richard Forristall reported on the following:

*Brian Kollmer injured his shoulder on his full-time job, and is on Workmen's Compensation. He will be unable to work at the cemetery until he is no longer eligible for Workmen's Comp. Using other part-time employees will get us through until Brian is able to resume his normal schedule.

*Richard will be placing curb markers in preparation for snow plowing.

*President Forristall brought up for consideration the matter of the remains of two deceased being placed in the same casket; one of the remains would be full burial, the other a cremation burial. Richard indicated that, despite the fact that the two sets of remains would be placed in the same plot, the burial would require two sets of paperwork. He recommended that an additional fee of \$100 be charged for the added paperwork. Robert Larson made two related motions, both of which were approved unanimously: **First motion:** To approve President Forristall's recommendation that an added \$100 paperwork fee be charged for interring two remains in the same casket, one full burial, one cremation burial. **Second motion:** That an added \$100 paperwork fee be charged when two cremation urns are placed in the same hole at the same time.

5. **Financial Statements & Report:** Treasurer Jayne Mather indicated that our income through the end October, 2018, was higher than expected. During the first half of our fiscal year, we have had 10 more cremation burials, and 6 more full burials than during the comparable period last year. Total income for the first half was 98% of our forecast for the year. Expenditures for the first half were at the 73% level. The October 31 cash balance was \$38,437.29.

Wooster Chapel: At the halfway point in the fiscal year, income was below expectations. Diminished use by the Anglican Church contributed to the shortfall. Cash balance October 31 was \$1,497.82.

President Forristall indicated that we have an estimate of \$44,000.00 for driveway paving to resurface an area extending from the lower part of the hill, proceeding past Beth Shalom and green burial, up the hill to meet a recently resurfaced road.

On a motion by Mark Lowrey, seconded by Rhonda Forristall to raise the hourly rate of two high school age employees by \$.50. Approved unanimously.

On a motion by Scott Nelson, seconded by Rhonda Forristall to award a \$300 bonus to Brian Kollmer. Approved unanimously.

6. **Superintendent's Report:**

*Leaf pickup is ongoing, and Richard anticipates that task will be completed within the next two weeks.

*Tractor tires have been replaced, and the bill has not yet arrived.

*On order is a new blade for the tractor.

*The push blower wheels have been repaired.

*The expansion of Beth Shalom section has been completed, and looks beautiful. We may need to reconsider our fee schedule for maintenance of the expanded site.

7. **Committee Reports:**

*Chapel: Mark Lowrey expressed his pleasure that the chapel has been used for a funeral during inclement weather.

*Green burial area: Richard Forristall reported that the green burial area has been filled and graded at the same time as the contiguous Beth Shalom expansion was going on. But after probing the area, Richard found that only 12-15 full-burial plots are available rather than the expected 30-40. It may be necessary to bring in added fill. Richard also indicated that he will be circulating for future board consideration a list of requirements for green burial.

*Fall Walk: This event was cancelled due to foul weather, but several people showed up. So the walk was held anyway. Those who attended were invited to ask questions, and lively conversations followed.

8. **Old Business**: None

9. **New Business**: A suggestion was made for the FHCA Board to organized some sort of community gathering. Some discussion ensued, but no action was taken. This is a topic for future consideration.

10. **Adjournment**: Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Arthur Thompson, Secretary