

Fountain Hill Cemetery Association Board of Directors

1. Richard Forristall **called to order** the meeting of March 18, 2019, at **Richard H SmithTown Hall at 7:00 pm.**

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

2. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the meeting of January 21, 2019 were approved as amended.

Correction: Section 6, Superintendent's Report should read "Richard Forristall reported that Brian Kollmer will require rotator cuff surgery, which will necessitate a **4-6 month** recovery period."

3. **Communications:** President Forristall reported a conversation with Reverend Merrill Perkins during which Mr. Perkins indicated that the Anglican Church congregation will suspend their use of the Wooster Chapel for an indefinite period.

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

*Cemetery road reconstruction (paving) will commence in the Spring, during the same period that the Town of Deep River is doing its repaving. Richard sent a map of our paving plan for this season. Angus promised discuss that paving with the contractor, and get back to Richard with a cost estimate for our part of the job. A follow-up conference should be held with First Selectman MacDonald toward the end of March. Some discussion ensued regarding budgeting for our share of the paving costs, and of Beth Shalom's offer to share in the paving cost. Included in the paving plan is the reconstruction of the cemetery road that passes by the Beth Shalom section of the cemetery.

Vice President Report: None

5. **Financial Statements & Report:** Treasurer Jayne Mather indicated that, through the end of February, 2019, income exceeded expectations by \$7325; at the same time, expenditures exceeded expectations by \$2669. Our cash balance on February 28, 2019 was \$34,211.

The Wooster Chapel account was consistent with our budget. While income was down, so were expenses. At the moment, due to the suspension of usage by the Anglican Church a \$1400 deficit is anticipated in this account for the next fiscal year.

Treasurer Mather also presented for consideration and approval the budget for the next fiscal year commencing May 1, 2019, The proposed budget includes anticipated Receipts of \$91,660, which is below what we received this fiscal year, but higher than the budget 2018-2019 budget. However, Disbursements are expected to be \$107,423, about \$13,000 higher than budgeted for 2018-2019. The line item for Road Repairs remained at \$20,000; however that item may be increased. It may be necessary to dip into the Perpetual Care Fund to pay for the overage. On a motion by Mark Lowrey, seconded by Rhonda Forristall, the proposed budget was approved unanimously as presented.

In a separate motion made by Scott Nelson, seconded by Rhonda Forristall, hourly rates for employees were increased by the following: Brian Kollmer = \$22; Brendan McKeon = \$14; Others = \$12. Funds for these raises are included in the 2018-2019 budget. Motion approved unanimously.

6. **Superintendent's Report:** Richard Forristall went into more detail about the proposed paving plan for 2018-2019. In the approved budget is \$20,000 for repaving of cemetery roads. The plan for this season is to pave a stretch of road commencing at the side road part way up the hill, proceeding up the hill, past Beth Shalom section, and looping around to intersect a previously repaved road. A preliminary estimate of \$44,000 was received last year for that job. To be left for another year is paving from the High Street entrance to the road part way up the hill. The source of additional funds is not certain at this time.

Richard also reported that soil erosion is an ongoing issue, needing our attention. No easy solutions were apparent. He also reported the purchase of a weed whacker.

7. **Committee Reports:**

Chapel: Used once during two months for a funeral.

Green burial: Some discussion, but no decisions.

Bylaws: No report

Preservation Society: No progress.

Membership: Will be voted on at Annual Meeting in May. Susan Miron will call current members to determine interest in continuing.

8. **Old Business:** None

9. **New Business:** None

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

Respectfully Submitted, Arthur Thompson, Secretary