

Vernon Grove Board of Trustees

Meeting Minutes

March 6, 2024

Present: Chairman - Ron Gray, Trustee – Scott Crisafulli, Trustee – Fred Elliott, Trustee – Chase Filosa, Trustee – Charlie Skaff, Trustee – Mike Lenza, Cemetery Administrator – Phil Greenstein

Residents: Jamie Wheelock

Meeting called to order 6:01 PM. Motion to open by Charlie, 2nd by Fred, all in favor.

Review of minutes, Chase motion to accept, 2nd by Ron, all in favor.

Open Floor:

Ron invited Mr. Wheelock if he would like to address Trustees as an Open Floor item. Mr. Wheelock made a suggestion as to the Cemetery possibly partnering with the Tree Warden to replace some of the bigger trees that are missing from VG Cemetery because of either being cut down or knocked down from high winds. Phil stated that some tree issues were going to be addressed in the Administrator report.

Administrator Report – 1/3/2024

Dustin and Jamie have been spending some time at VG getting ready for spring. They've started cleaning out the 2 outbuildings, setting aside equipment to auction and getting rid of what is trash. The middle red brick building is loaded with mice, I had Milford Exterminating come down to assess the situation. They can do an initial treatment for \$135, then \$85 per month maintenance after that. If we are going to store equipment or anything good in these buildings we need to keep them as rodent free as possible. Board suggests 3 month treatment then doing ourselves. I was continually having problems with United Site Services about their billing. I got the name of the company the Parks Department uses and switched to them. They are local, easy to reach by phone or text, not waiting on hold for 30 to 45 minutes at a time like USS. I checked with Dustin about the small trees, they are Flowering Dogwoods. He spoke with Chuck Reneau who got them

last time. Chuck said he can get them for us at a cost of \$200 to \$300 each. Dustin thinks that is a very good deal. Suggested that Dustin talk to Chuck Reneau about the larger trees at the same time as he is ordering the Dogwoods. Dustin was also asking if maybe we could / should do a small memorial for former Foreman Gerry Taft who passed recently, maybe a small tree and plaque? Board thought if we did it for one we would have to do it for every person who ever either worked or was on board. Board turned it down. I called Hopedale Village to get info on their section and they invited us down to take a look. Dustin and I went there and checked it out. I have some photos and also the list of rules etc. Board directs Phil to look into getting H lot surveyed. After looking at the eyesore the fence is and checking out several other cemeteries, what would the thought be on eliminating the fence altogether? Board doesn't agree on removing but suggests we look into repair instead of replace. Scott contacted Amazon about National St. trash and they cleaned it up. I emailed everyone a copy of digging contract. I have a sign list. Dustin would like an April 15 start date on part-timer if possible. Thatcher attachment for machine? Black mulch?

January:

2 full body burials in January.

February Fuel: \$0

New Business:

Scott has a list of items to be auctioned and will start working on the process. Motion by Fred to post PT job and start date ASAP, 2nd by Chase, all in favor. Some discussion about proposed skateboard park on Vernon Street. Not sure if VG Cemetery has any say in the decision. Motion by Mike to elect Scott as incoming Chairman effective April meeting, 2nd by Chase, all in favor. Motion by Charlie to elect Chase as Vice- Chair effective April meeting, 2nd by Mike, all in favor.

Old Business:

Lengthy discussion about Veilleux exception. Motion by Charlie to allow exception subject to a test hole to make sure it is clear. 5 in favor, 1 opposed, motion carried.

Motion to adjourn by Charlie, 2nd by Scott, all business concluded at 8:33 pm.

Next Meeting Wednesday April 3, 2024 / 6 PM, Town Hall room 14.

Accepted April 3, 2024 by:

Ron Gray

Scott Crisafulli

Fred Elliott

Chase Filosa

Charles Skaff

Michael Lenza