

**Cemetery Association  
Minutes of Meeting  
October 24, 2012**

The Town of Camden Cemetery Association held a meeting on the above date. Present were Isa Babb, Pat Ayers, Kristine Lerner, Parker Laite, Sr. and Jeff Weymouth. Also, attending were Parks Director Jeff Kuller, Sexton Bruce Libby, Town Manager Pat Finnigan, Finance Director Carol Sue Greenleaf, Select Board member Don White, Jr. and a guest Sally Lobkowicz. Parker Laite, Sr. chaired the meeting.

1. Approve the minutes of the July 18, 2012 meeting – Isa Babb made a motion, “to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2012 meeting as written”. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeff Weymouth and approved by a vote.
2. Allowing upright headstones at the Oak Hill Cemetery (By-law change)? – Pat Finnigan reported that she and Kristine Lerner had met to discuss a potential survey of residents asking if they preferred flat or upright headstones. It was decided that due to the economy and the Cemetery Association’s challenging financial picture perhaps more immediate action was required. Carol Sue spoke about the difference in grave prices at the Oak Hill North Cemetery. Mt. View and Oak Hill graves are sold at \$350.00 (resident) and \$500.00 (non-resident) while Oak Hill North graves have been offered at \$500.00 (resident) and \$1,000.00 (non-resident) with a two grave minimum purchase required. She suggested that this price difference may have something to do with the lack of grave sales. After a brief discussion Jeff Weymouth made a motion, “to charge the same price for graves at the Oak Hill North Cemetery as is being charged at the other cemeteries (\$350.00 (resident) and \$500.00 (non-resident) and to remove the minimum two grave purchase requirement”. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Isa Babb and approved by a vote.

Additional discussion and review of a conceptual site plan of the Oak Hill North Cemetery prepared by Michael T. Farmer & Associates dated May 21, 1997 resulted in agreement to revisit options (with regards to headstones) for offering both choices in the area already prepared and surveyed. It was decided to hold a “special” Cemetery meeting on November 7, 2012 at 1:00 P.M. to be held at the Oak Hill North Cemetery for the purpose of designating where upright and flat headstones might be allowed.

3. Financial reports - Carol Sue reviewed the financial reports ending September 30, 2012 with the committee. She reported that revenue from trust investments (perpetual care) for the fiscal period ending June 30, 2012 was lower than anticipated. Interest from the Mt. View Cemetery funds held in trust was \$12,669.00 (\$18,000.00 budgeted); \$4,206.00 was received for the Oak Hill Cemetery (\$6,525.00 budgeted) and \$1,354.00 was received from the Irene F. Laite Trust for the benefit of the memorial garden. Kristine Lerner suggested that a conservative approach to spending be implemented due to the financial picture. Jeff Weymouth made a motion, “to accept the financial reports as presented”. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Isa Babb and approved by a vote. It was also noted that the “Stone Restoration” expense line has been spent in total. This includes the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012 carry forward of \$575.00.
4. Grub problem – Jeff Kuller spoke about a problem with “grubs” in the cemeteries and “all over town”. He explained the life cycle (of grubs) and the Town’s policy to avoid using pesticides. Bruce Libby also spoke about the damage that has been done this year and

previous years when pesticides were used to control the problem. Pat Ayers suggested that the problem be addressed in the spring and it was agreed that it was too late in the season to do anything now. Parker Laite asked Jeff to prepare a plan/proposal for dealing with the problem and convene the committee responsible for making a recommendation (to the Town Manager) on the use of pesticides.

5. Sally Lobkowitz (The Lady in Red Cloak) Director of Red Cloak Haunted History Tours – Ms. Lobkowitz attended the meeting and explained what she does. She currently offers Red Cloak Haunted History Tours in Camden. The proposed cemetery tour will highlight interesting symbolism on headstones; provide a general history of the cemetery, funeral practices and stories of people interred. She will begin the tours in 2013 and \$1.00 per person will be donated to the Cemetery Association. The Cemetery Committee thanked her for attending their meeting and wished her success.

#### OTHER

Parker Laite reported that he could have a new gate installed at the Oak Hill Cemetery for \$2,500.00. He requested \$2,000.00 from the “Capital Improvements” line # 5510-1253 and will secure a donation for the remaining \$500.00. Jeff Weymouth made a motion, “to approve the expenditure as requested”. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Isa Babb and approved by a vote.

The next meeting will be a “special” meeting to be held at the Oak Hill North Cemetery on Wednesday, November 7, 2012 at 1:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Sue Greenleaf