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VERNON CEMETERY COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JUNE 3, 2014

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The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m by Chairman Jean Luddy.

Present: Jean Luddy, Lois-Jane Tonski, Stuart Edwards, Scott Brown, Judy Hany, Cemetery Superintendent Alan West, and Cemetery Secretary, Carol Nelson.

The minutes of the special meeting of January 7, 2014 were accepted as presented upon a motion made by Stu Edwards, seconded by Judy Hany, and unanimously voted.

Superintendent's Report

a. **Chapel damage** – Cracks in the stone and mortar around the bell were observed and the entrance roped off for safety concerns. The engineer Jim Silva who worked on the Fox Hill Tower has examined the building and his report is expected.

Citizens Forum – Lauren Lalancette of 1 Lakeside Circle, Bolton, arrived and presented her concerns about her lot in Valley Falls Cemetery that has been tagged. Her son Michael Hay as well has her father are buried in Valley Falls. She has removed the border in front of the monument, as requested, and has flowers planted. A figurine of a special dog of a resin composition rests on the base of the monument and she does not want to remove it. She stated that having the dog figurine helps with the burden of the loss and asked for reasonableness in the rules and regulations. Alan explained that he has tagged numerous lots with removal requests as there are maintenance issues with the vast number of borders and figurines. He has received maybe ten phone calls with questions regarding the tagging. Mrs. Lalancette left the meeting.

b. **Flower Fund Income** – The lack of income from the $30,000 in the fund was discussed. Income was less than five dollars and flowers could not be planted on the majority of the graves. Concern was expressed about the investment of these funds. The Town Finance Officer Jim Luddecke will be requested to attend the September meeting to discuss the cemetery investments.

c. **Records Retention** – Permission has been granted by the Office of the State Librarian to dispose of old records that are no longer needed. These will be burned.

d. **Tagging of Lots** – Alan explained that there has been building up over the past few years of considerable cluttering at monuments and markers. These present difficulty in that they interfere with mowing and trimming the lots. He has tagged those that are not in compliance with the Rules and Regulations and will not remove the items for a few weeks. It was agreed to postpone discussion and any possible Commission action on this item until the September meeting.

e. **Memorial Day Report** – All the cemeteries were mowed and cleaned up. Credit was given to Bill Aforismo for outstanding appearance of the Lugg Veterans Field. Mayor Dan Champagne has personally thanked the staff for their efforts in making the appearance of the cemetery outstanding.

Other Business – Judy Hany is being reappointed to the Commission by the Town Council at tonight's meeting. Her term will be 7/01/2014 – 6/30/2017.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m. with a motion made by Judy Hany and seconded by Stu Edwards.

Carol S. Nelson

Carol S. Nelson
Cemetery Secretary

Approved: