

Portland Mills Cemetery Stockholders Annual Board Meeting

DATE June 4, 2023

TIME 2PM

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY President, Carolyn Collins

IN ATTENDANCE

Heather Malicoat, Debbie Waltz, Jim/Donna Waltz Brown, Darlene Standeford (Waltz), Julia (Judy) Hazlett Ritter, Ed Cambra, Carolyn Collins, Jane Greil, Pat Marrero, Harold B. Thomas, Janet DeMumbrum, Cassandra DeMumbrum Milam, Chester Sayler, Dan Harbison, Todd & Sandy Hopkins, Janet Barr

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Janet Barr, Secretary, read the minutes from the last meeting in 2022 which were approved as read.

REPORTS

Sandy Hopkins read the Treasurers report which was approved as read.

- All 3 CDs changed to Edward Jones which included a big change in rates
- CDs mature at end of June and end of October

Contribution from Ruth Smith estate will help with long term care of the cemetery.

- Ed Buyers of Edward Jones is assisting with the account for free.
 - Contributions: \$3300 Individuas and \$24,131.17 Inez "Ruth" Smith (invested)
 - Interest Income: \$772.96
 - Total Income: \$28,204.13
 - Total Expenses: \$27,963.37
 - Beginning Bank Balance: \$5428.00/Ending Bank Balance: \$5668.76
 - CD Values Total: \$66,000

Harold Thomas gave a grounds report:

- Jim Wrightsman, Harold's son-in-law took over the majority of the groundskeeping along with his 2 sons.
- The mower is doing well. John Deere now requires pre-payment when ordering needed parts. New deck wheels have been ordered and received.
- Posts will be placed where needed once the weather cools.
- The mulch looks good on the flower beds.
- It was noted that cement bumpers will be moved to a specific part of the cemetery for flower beds. Families should avoid planting flowers around graves as there is no one to water them and it causes difficulty when mowing.
- Two dead trees were also cut down.

Dan Harbison, Vice President reported:

- 1 burial since last meeting: James F. Allison, aged 66 burial 11/21/22
- Lot 17, block 13, bed 1
- There were no sales since the last meeting

Old business: None

New business:

- Janet Barr is stepping down as Secretary. The board and all in attendance applauded Janet on her years of dedicated service and excellence to the Portland Mills Cemetery Board. Janet will provide the new secretary with a hard drive of everything needed and also indicated that there will be no future mailings due to the expense inquired. All information for the meetings as well as the newsletter will be included on the website: www.portlandmills.com and Heather Malicoat will create a Facebook Group, open to the public to join, which will also include the minutes and invites to the meetings.
- Janet's nephew, David Marrero who manages the website also suggested posting in the Parke County Historical Society's Facebook Group. Carolyn Collins will check the cost of putting a notice in the Parke County Sentinel as well.
- A vote was taken on the motion to forego mailings and utilize the website and Facebook group. All in attendance were in favor.
- The floor was opened for questions after Carolyn Collins read a complimentary letter regarding the beauty of the cemetery:
 - A bench on the north side drive needs leveled due to it being on a slope. Harold will have Jim's sons straighten it up.
 - Harold asked if we could spray for weeds along the hillside and treeline for better access and safety while mowing. Todd will spray with his tractor.
 - Chester Saylor noted that the church is currently having a revival at 7PM.
 - A question was raised about how many beds are left. Dan didn't have a specific number but noted there are some left. The current price for a bed is \$100 which is substantially cheaper than larger cemeteries.
 - Dan inquired about creating a policy stating that anyone without family buried in the cemetery or not being a full-time resident of the area would be charged a larger amount for a plot due to some transient visitors choosing a plot due to it being "cheap". This discussion was tabled until the next meeting.
 - Dan also indicated help was needed in marking off and locating plots as the markers have grown over. A probe and tape measure would be required. He also noted that the current grave digging company will likely be out of business soon due to age. Someone will need to step in to take over. Heather indicated she would talk to her husband, JC, who owned his own excavating company and is in the Operator's Union with nearly 30 years of experience as to whether he could help with both. She will get back in touch with the board upon receiving more information.

BOARD

Secretary, Treasurer and Groundskeeper are all up for re-election this year. Heather Malicoat was nominated for Secretary, Todd (Sandy) Hopkins nominated for Treasurer and Harold Thomas and his family for Groundskeeper. There were no further nominations. A vote was taken, and all were unanimously voted in. These are 2-year positions.

Carolyn Collins noted no further questions or concerns, and the meeting was adjourned.

NEXT MEETING

June 2, 2024