**ATHENS CEMETERY COMMISSION**

**Draft of minutes of September 1, 2021 meeting**

. The meeting was called to order by Donald Capponcelli at 6:05PM. Present were Don, Harold Noyes and Steve Oakes, commissioners. There were no members of the public present.

. There were no adjustments to the agenda.

. The minutes of the April 7, 2021 meeting were approved without any additions or corrections (Steve Oakes moved to accept; seconded by Harold Noyes. All 3 commissioners present voted to approve).

**. Financial Update:**

* Revenue to-date ($500.00) is from the sale of two cremation plots in the Valley Cemetery to out-of-town purchasers at $150.00 each, plus the sale of two full-burial plots in the West Cemetery to in-town purchasers at $100.00 each. These receipts are accounted for in the “major maintenance” allotments for each of the cemeteries.
* The $3,000.00 stipend from the Town of Athens (part of the municipal budget approved by voters in March, 2021) is expected to be received at the end of September.
* Expenses to-date are $145.26 for veteran flags and $1,875.00 representing 3 installments to Ivor Stevens Grounds Maintenance for the 2021 season (for both cemeteries). One remaining installment to Stevens will be in the amount of $625.00.

**. Valley Cemetery** – Don had difficulty at first in determining the ownership of all six plots in Section B, Lot #28 by descendants of Dwight and Doris Hitchcock. A lesson learned from the experience was to check the 1941 cemetery map, as not all the lot owner names were transferred to the 1981 mylar-traced map which has been the current working copy for the Athens Valley Cemetery.

A question had come up as to the current disposition of two full-burial plots that had been purchased by Jim and Pat Kelley and were later donated back to the Town of Athens. Don is to look into this.

There were no plans discussed for a fall work day in either of the cemeteries.

**. West Cemetery** – Corner markers for Alice White’s plot (New Section, Row B, plot #26) were purchased by Ray White and installed by Don Capponcelli. Don has not made any further progress to-date this year with the installation of row markers in the New Section.

**. Commissioner Comments** – Harold Noyes had high praise for the ongoing work of Ivor Stevens Grounds Maintenance in our two cemeteries. Harold compared the quality of care that our cemeteries are getting with the relatively lacking quality of care given to cemeteries that he has seen in Bellows Falls. Don noted similar observations in other often larger municipalities.

**. Date of next meeting** will be Wed., December 1, 2021, 6PM, Athens Town Office. Agenda will include approval of a budget request from the Town of Athens for the 2022 season.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:33PM (Harold Noyes moved to adjourn; Steve Oakes seconding).

Respectfully submitted,

Donald Capponcelli, chairman