Woodstock Cemetery Committee
Minutes

Friday, February 27th, 2026 at Firehouse #1

Attending: Teri Reynolds, Chair; Catherine Carberry, Bob Gordon, Debbie Hastie, Ken Keefe, Janine Mower, Tana O'Sullivan, Councilman Reggie Earls

Absent: Richard Heppner

Guest: None

Meeting was called to order at 9:38 AM

Motion by Janine, 2nd Debbie: by to accept the minutes of January 23rd, 2026. All in favor.

Chairperson's Report: Teri went to Timely signs to discuss updating QR code on our cemetery map and the QR codes on the plaques of our Heritage Trees. She discussed this with Tyson who stated that stickers could be fabricated to place over present QR codes. Updating the QR code was a cooperative effort between Town Councilmembers Laurie Osmond and Laura Ricci and WCC member Catherine Carberry. The decals are necessary due to the change to our Town website from .org to .gov. Richard had previously suggested the Geezers could place the new decal on our sign. Timely Signs will make 50 decals for plaques and 3 decals for sign. Total cost is $100.00.

Motion by Tana, 2nd by Catherine: to pay $100 to Timely Signs for the 53 decals. Motion passes with all in favor.

Al Van Leuvan is in charge of the burials under our new Supervisor, Anula Courtis. The mapping situation, unfortunately, is horrendous. We expect the new effort on mapping will include us. Al is very knowledgeable about cemetery matters and is familiar with how the State Association of Cemeteries can assist us. We are very happy with Al's appointment. Debbie suggests we invite Al to attend one of our meetings.

Teri and Debbie will be meeting with Supervisor Courtis on 3/5 at 1pm. Reggie will join.

OLD BUSINESS

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

A. **Gravestone Cleaning - Catherine:** No update given that it is still the middle of winter. Catherine is looking forward to spring and to her volunteers resuming their great work.

B. **Fundraising – Debbie:** Teri thanked Debbie for revising our fundraising letter. Letter is distributed for our review. Our list is up to 180 names and we are aiming to get it up to 200 names by reviewing the names of those who bought plots in the last three years. Duplicate names on the mailing list were removed in a prior effort. We pay for the postage of our mailings using a bulk rate. Anula has already reviewed the new fundraising letter. Yvonne will print approximately 200 of the letters. We can only receive donations by check.

   Catherine asks about "sponsoring a tree" campaign. Would we consider a phase II fundraising campaign with a "sponsor a tree" effort, maybe approaching local businesses to sponsor a tree? Debbie said we sent out letters two years ago and Houst was the one of a very few businesses that donated. Perhaps with a tree we'll get a better response. We could hand deliver the requests in person. At a rounded up $250 per tree we need 20 businesses to raise $4,999 for the remaining 20 trees. Janine suggests developing an informal campaign for this spring. Janine and Catherine will get together to brainstorm a social media campaign about the trees. Janine will also reach out to Michael Veitch.

   Bob spoke to the American Legion in Woodstock about an annual donation of $250 a year to sponsor a tree and it was well received, they thought it made good sense. Janine suggests the Legion could be used as a leader in this campaign. Bob spoke with the current Commander.

   Catherine asks if our Instagram account could have a Venmo link to create a link to receive funds that she could turn over. We will research this.

   Motion by Janine, 2nd by Catherine: to accept the fundraiser letter as written. Motion passes with all in favor.

C. **Heritage Trees – Bob:** Bob has spoken with Vern Rist who looks forward to returning in warmer weather to complete the treatment of trees, which must be done by November at latest.

D. **Grant Research – Tana:** I have researched local foundations and organizations within Ulster and Dutchess counties that have a record of providing small grants, $1,000 to $2,500, to projects and organizations in Ulster County. I was able to find records by township and see who has funded projects in each town, and where the donors are from. **I** have prepared a draft letter focused on headstones and our Heritage Trees and am submitting it to Teri for a first review. Then it will need to be

approved the Town Supervisor. I'm hopeful to send out letters in batches of about five at a time, having identified maybe 10-20 organizations. Tana to work with Catherine on a potential enclosure with photographs of before and after headstones and our gorgeous Heritage Trees.

E. Publicity – Janine: Janine suggests a postcard as an accompaniment to the fundraiser letter. Is going to work with Catherine on a social media campaign for a sponsor a tree fundraiser to help pay for the next round of trees with Vern Rist.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Procedure to buy a plot – Teri:** First, one reviews the map with the Supervisor's Secretary of available plots to see what you are interested in. Then one goes to the Town Clerk with the plot number(s) you wish to purchase. The Clerk prepares the deed and conducts the sale. Teri is going to talk with Anula about **Woodstock Cemetery Pricing**. A burial plot is currently still $800 for locals. Al is going to be very helpful with this. Believe it is $2,000 for non-residents. At Evergreen Cemetery plots are more expensive whether you are local or not. Maps need updating.

2. **NYS Open Government Laws – Teri:** Information about the NYS Open Government laws was provided by the Town to all the committee chairpersons. Meaghan Raimondo was very helpful with this. Meaghan and Michele are a good team. There is a Town Calendar that shows when and where Town Committees meet. We are now on the Town Calendar. The 3rd Friday in June is a national holiday, so we will discuss another day to meet in June when the time gets closer. We would allow for public comment at the end of the meeting. Teri will invite Al to the April meeting. Reggie will be out of town but will attend the April meeting by Zoom.

3. **Joe Ferrannini -** Teri will alert everyone to Joe's intended start date, hopefully in April.

The next WCC meeting will be Friday, April 17th, 2026 at 9:30am at Fire Co #1

Motion by Janine, 2nd by Debbie: to adjourn. Motion passes with all in favor.