

Town of Canandaigua Cemetery Committee
Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at 9:30 AM
Minutes

Meeting Called by: Karen DeMay, Committee Chairperson

Committee Members present: Judy York, Dave York, Doug Stone, Karen DeMay, Ray Henry, Former Town Historian, Richard and Donna West, Leif HerrGesell, Town Historian, Dennis Brewer, and Town Staff, Amanda (Parks) and Jessica Mull.

The meeting was opened at 9:30 AM by Chairperson, Karen DeMay. The minutes of November 7, 2022, were approved upon motion of Dave York, seconded by Judy York, and carried.

The first order of business was discussion regarding Wreaths Across America. Between our last meeting and today, various persons have approached the committee informally suggesting our Town may consider participating in the event in December. This annual tribute has grown over the years to honor and remember our nation's Veterans who are laid to rest in participating locations. In 2022 there were 3,700 locations.

Historian Leif estimates there are just under 100 total veterans in our seven town-owned cemeteries. Ray Henry will alert Pine Bank of our efforts. We will need to coordinate many moving parts of this recognition. We will create policy and guidance. A group including Karen DeMay, Leif HerrGesell, Donna West, and Judy York will meet in the near future to get underway. We hope to illicit help from volunteers, American Legion, VFW, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, etc. All present agreed we should move forward.

The Wolverton Cemetery which is privately owned but has significant history, suffered damage from a fallen tree. The tree was very large and caused significant damage. Leif will assess and report back in the near future.

Leif also reported of a 19th century marble headstone that has fallen in Hunn Cemetery, believe to have been caused by high winds and not so level foundation.

Action Items:

1. Spring cemetery clean-up date set for Saturday, May 20, 2023, at Lucas Cemetery (Rt. 21) to begin at 9:30 AM.
2. Prepare 2023 Cemetery Maintenance contract with Peter Ellison, Ellison Conservation. Ask Mr. Ellison for photos of headstones he restored in 2022. (Leif)
3. Updating Town Board (Karen and Leif)
4. Establish 1st meeting and direction for steering group for Wreaths Across America. (Karen)

Items deferred to future meetings:

1. Request for bench at Academy and Kiosk at Academy. (Lindsay)
2. Cemetery Tour/Trail.

Adjourned at 10:35 AM, next meeting date: Tuesday June 6, 2023

Respectfully submitted, Karen DeMay